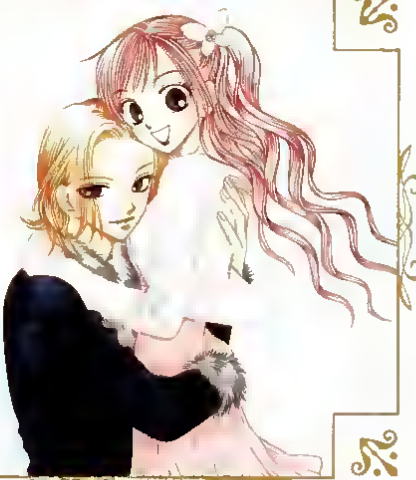
V.B. Rose



Banri Hidaka

3

Manga
Romance
US $9.99
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V.B. Rose

Her beloved sister's wedding lands Ageha a dream job at a bridal salon, but her happy days in the world of frills and sparkles may be disrupted by an even more dazzling pair of young men!

Ageha's meddling may succeed in reuniting the Kuromine siblings, but her effect on the VB Rose staff is getting more and more complicated! Her skills as an assistant are growing exponentially, much to the joy of all concerned, and her feelings for Yukari are slowly being noticed by those around her...

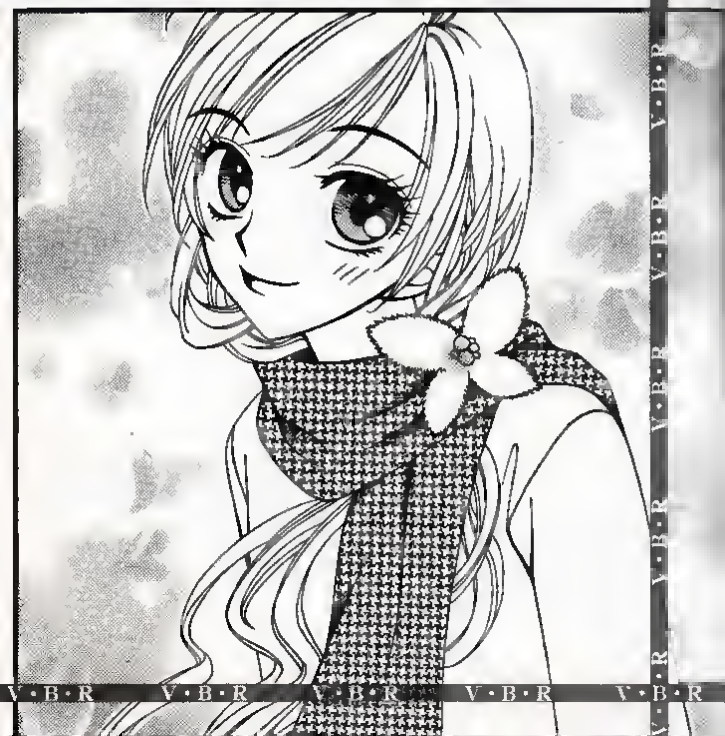
The party isn't over yet in this blissful series from the creator of ***I Hate You More Than Anyone*** and ***Tears of a Lamb***

THE MANGA REVOLUTION · LEADING · 漫画革命 · LEADING · THE MANGA REVOLUTION

V.B. Rose

Volume 3

Banri Hidaka



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Episode 12

Ayeha at Hojo High School.
Kee ♥
WHA..
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?!
I TOLD YOU, I CAME TO SEE YOU!
You should listen when people talk to you.
Ta-da!
A-n-d
I EVEN WORE A DISGUISE SO I'D BE INCONSPICUOUS. ♡
How do you like the sailor suit?

I'VE NEVER SEEN HER BEFORE
She's so cute
IS SHE A FIRST-YEAR?
It's kind of exciting.
It's because I usually wear knee-length skirts.
You look a little different in the sailor suit
SHE'S ALREADY CAUSING A COMMOTION.
YOUR GIRLY PRESENCE IS CONSPICUOUS ALL BY ITSELF
Get a clue!
WHO IS THAT CUTE GIRL?
Check out her thighs!
It's a science-magnet school, so it's packed with boys.
HUH?
TIME FOR A CHANGE OF LOCATION.
Don't wander around like it's your own school.
JUST GET OUT OF THERE!!
YOU SHOULDN'T LET HER OUT WITHOUT A LEASH.
OH, BUT ISN'T IT ENTERTAINING?
あはは
Matter-of-fact
I CAN'T TAKE IT.
THEN I'LL TELL YOU STRAIGHT OUT.
WHAT?

TOMORROW, SATURDAY, AT 9 P.M., ASSEMBLE AT VBR.
HUH?
UNDER-STOOD?
ASSEMBLE. ♪
STOP MESS-ING WITH ME.
KUROMINE-SAN IS REALLY BUSY NOW.
DON'T YOU WANT TO SEE HIM HARD AT WORK?
DON'T YOU?
YOU WANT TO, RIGHT?!
Hey!

AHHHH, YOU SAW!!
WHAT ARE YOU BABBLING ABOUT?
DO YOU REALLY...
...LIKE THINGS THE WAY THEY ARE?
HOW ABOUT THAT AS-SEMBLY?

THANKS! I WILL. ♡
Yay!
HAVE IT YOUR WAY.
YOU'RE BEING A GOOD SPORT TODAY.
Heh heh
IF SHE'S WILLING TO GO AS FAR AS BREAKING INTO THE SCHOOL, WHO KNOWS WHAT ELSE SHE MIGHT DO TO ME...
Heh heh
AH.. YOU FINALLY UNDER-STAND.

Isein't understand either
WHAT?!
WHAT?!
BRING WHAT YOU NEED FOR A SLEEP-OVER!
AH, NO, YOU STILL DON'T GET IT
ALL RIGHT! SEE YOU TOMORROW!
SHIZUYA IS COMING?!
FIELD... TRIP?
WHY?!
Are you sure?
TAKE CARE OF YOUR OWN FAMILY
BEFORE YOU TALK ABOUT OTHERS
WON'T THEY GET IN THE WAY?
What?

HMMM?
DO I SENSE A NEW WIND BLOWING?
I JUST DON'T WANT TO MIX BUSINESS WITH THE PERSONAL.
YOU'RE DRAWING TOO MUCH OF A DISTINC-TION.
...NO?
Sigh...
WHAT?!
LET SHIZUYA OBSERVE MITSU ON THE JOB?!
AFTERRR WHAAT HAAAPENED BEEFOOORE, YOOU STIIIIILL..
AHHHH!

OF COURSE I'M GONNA SAY NO!
I DON'T WANT SHIZUYA TO SEE HIM GOOFING OFF--
I WANT HIM TO SEE THE REAL KUROMINE-SAN
BUT...!
THE REAL KUROMINE IS PROBABLY EVEN WORSE.
I KNOW.
YOU KNOW, AND STILL YOU ASK?
I see.
BECAUSE, WELL..
I WANT HIM TO SEE THE TRUTH INSTEAD OF THE IMAGE HE'S CREATED IN HIS HEAD.
HE WON'T REALLY GET IT UNTIL HE SEES IT FOR HIMSELF.
EVEN IF IT MEANS HE CURSES AT KUROMINE-SAN AFTER HE KNOWS THE REAL DEAL.

IT'S JUST THAT ONCE WE GET TO THAT POINT, THE REST IS UP TO SHIZUYA-KUN.
SO IT'S OKAY FOR HIM TO YELL AT KUROMINE-SAN?
NO, IT'S NOT OKAY.
I'M CONFUSED.
WE'LL TRY NOT TO BOTHER YOU GUYS.
PLEASE.

YOU'RE ALREADY PLENTY BOTHER-SOME.
Hee-Yah!
JUST THIS ONCE.

THANK YOU.
YUKARI-KUN?
Ah!

Oh.
HOW DOES SHE MANAGE TO PUSH ME AROUND LIKE THIS?
Done reminiscing.
JUST BECAUSE YOU FIGURED IT OUT, DON'T RUB IT IN!
WHAP
Pisses me off...
Ha ha!
IS IT THE AGEHA-CHAN EFFECT?
A FIELD TRIP...
I'D BETTER BRACE MYSELF.

GOOOD EVEEEENING.
9:00 PM THE NEXT DAY.
Why is Sakashita here too?!
SORRY TO INTRUDE!
HE TOTALLY GLARED AT US!!

HE IGNORED US!!
DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT. HIS EYES ARE OPEN BUT HE DOESN'T SEE YOU.
He can see nothing but his plans for the next month.
He's completely immersed in his work.
OH, KUROMINE-SAN. HELLO.
HA HA HA!
Rawr!
COME ON, GET UP HERE.
C'MERE C'MERE
WOW!
YOU'VE COME A LONG WAY WITH THIS ONE.

Ryoga?
CAN YOU HOLD THIS HERE?
REALLY?
CAN I HELP YOU WITH ANYTHING?
I'M HAVING TROUBLE WITH THE SKIRT, THOUGH.
Secret's Lesson
It's so flattering.
BRO, YOU MADE THIS?
YUP!
WITH THE CUSTOMER'S MEASUREMENTS
AND OVERALL FIGURE IN MIND
I wrap cloth around the form to emulate her size
Ge
...I USE YUKARI'S DESIGN TO CREATE THE PATTERN
WHEN YOU PUT THE PATTERN TOGETHER, IT BECOMES 3-D.
MY JOB IS TO TAKE A 2-D DESIGN AND MAKE IT 3-D
It's really interesting!
I GUESS I LIKE THAT KIND OF THING.
Something like that
3-D
Expanded
Picture
Earth

I'VE GOTTEN SO GOOD, I CAN GUESS AGEHA-CHAN'S MEASUREMENTS IN A SINGLE GLANCE.
THAT'S A USELESS TALENT!
AND YOU CHANGED THE SUBJECT!
Nonsense
LOOK, YOUR BROTHER IS PULLING AWAY!! HE'S AN ABOUT-TO-BE-BROKEN RADIO!
Or a moron.
I'm a genius...
Stay strong!!

YOU SAID I SHOULD BE MYSELF.
THAT'S TOO MUCH OF YOUR-SELF!
Can't you think a little of others?
Humph
OH, MAMORU-CHAN.
I CHANGED THE SHEETS
...SO YOU CAN SLEEP IN MY ROOM NEXT DOOR ANYTIME
THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONCERN
?
UMM, SHIZUYA-KUN, SHIZUYA-KUN.

NO MATTER HOW NOISY YOU ARE, SHE DOESN'T WAKE UP UNTIL THE MORNING.
Zzzz
BUT FOR US FIELD TRIPPERS, OUR OBJECTIVE IS TO OBSERVE, OKAY?
Do You understand?
Ice Log
WHEN THE CLOCK STRIKES TWELVE, ALL MOVEMENT CEASES NO MATTER WHAT-- EVEN IF SHE'S ON THE PHONE!
MAMORU-CHAN ALWAYS FALLS ASLEEP EXACTLY AT MIDNIGHT.
ex Class Trip
Oh it's 12
What?
HA HA HA
I DON'T HAVE A COMEBACK FOR THAT
ESPE-CIALLY YOUR BROTHER
I CAN'T THROW AGEHA INTO A PIT OF MEN ALL ALONE, NOW CAN I?
I DON'T TRUST ANY OF YOU
WHAT DID YOU COME HERE FOR?
I'M THE ONE BEING MADE A FOOL OF
SEEMS LIKE
SLAM
Ah
GAAAAH...
ALL RIGHT, NOW PULL THAT PART
Cause you are a fool!
OKAY
OKAY, AGEHA, GOOD LUCK WITH YOUR WORK.
IT'S NOT EVEN MIDNIGHT YET!!
Farewell
What happened to the cheery, "I'll do my best"?

Yep.
LIKE THIS?
Ah
HOLD THAT THERE FOR A BIT.
I'LL SNIP YOU.
IT'S AN INDIRECT KISS!
WANT TO LICK IT FOR ME?
WHERE?
WHAT?
SLURP
OH, I CUT MY FINGER.
SERIOUSLY, WHAT AM I DOING HERE?
.....
Ha
IT'S NOT MEAN!
Don't try it even if it's a joke.

If we pin from the inside
Uh huh, uh huh...
HEY.
YOU'RE HERE, I SEE.
HE REALLY DIDN'T NOTICE BEFORE?!

WHAT?
WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT THAT?
Gotcha.
What do y'r really, what do I think...
I HATE TO BARGE IN ON FAMILY MATTERS.
IT'S REALLY NOT MY STYLE, BUT...
NOT MANY PEOPLE..
...GET TO MAKE A CAREER OUT OF DOING...
WHAT THEY LOVE
!
FOR DIFFERENT REASONS

BUT WITH HIM...
YOU WANT TO DO IT BUT YOU CAN'T.
YOU WANT TO BE IT BUT YOU CAN'T.
YOU DON'T HAVE ANYTHING YOU WANT TO DO.
HIS OWN WILL BROUGHT HIM TO V.B.R.

YOU CAN'T AVOID IT ENTIRELY...
BUT IT'S WORSE IF YOU DON'T EVEN LIKE WHAT YOU DO.
EVEN IF YOU DO LOVE YOUR JOB...
ONCE YOU GET PAST A CERTAIN LEVEL, THE STRESS STARTS PILING UP.
I'M FINE IF YOU HATE ME...
...BUT DO YOU REALLY WANT TO FORCE YOUR FAVORITE BROTHER...
...INTO A "GOOD-ON-THE-SURFACE" JOB THAT HE DOESN'T ENJOY?
Hi! ☺
It's Banri Hidaka ☆ It's becoming more and more like spring! ♪
How are you guys doing?
Can I take a walk while looking at cherry blossoms this year?
This year's spring style is about adorably airy, fluffy clothes.
Then why is my closet filled with black clothes?
(Because I don't have time to shop for spring clothes!)
Oh, in Episode 11 and 12, Ayaka wore a sailor suit, but that was just because I wanted to dress her in one! (Hey) I wanted to draw a mini-skirt! (Yelling) I feel better now that I drew it! ♪ I'm satisfied. (Laugh)
In any case, I would be grateful if you enjoyed Hidaka's 29th manga, V.B Rose Volume 3. ☆
To all of you who sent me New Year's greeting cards and Valentine's day chocolates, thank you so much! ♥ And thank you to those of you who found mistrnts!

"I GUESS I LIKE THAT KIND OF THING..."
THAT'S THE FIRST TIME...
THAT I EVER HEARD MY BROTHER ACTUALLY ADMIT WHAT HE LOVES

IT'S FINISHED! ♡
GOOD JOB KUROMINE-SAN! ♪
They've handed over their accomplishment
WOO HOO!
CLAP CLAP
THANKS FOR HELPING ME OUT, AGEHA-CHAN.
You were a life saver!
IT LOOKS GOOD
The next version will be decorated with lace and frills
Oh
Oh my!
BY THE WAY, WHY ARE YOU AWAKE, YUKARI-KUN?
Uhhh!!
DAWN COMES EARLY IN THE SUMMER
The sun is already bright
Oh
I HAVE TO BUY SOME BREAD FOR BREAKFAST
Take a little nap
SHI-ZUVU
COME WITH ME TO THE CONVENIENCE STORE
Let's go!

BUT I'M RELIEVED THAT WE FINISHED THE GOWN.
I hope she likes it.
I think I'll take a siesta later.
AAAAGH, THE SUNLIGHT HURTS MY EYES.
Thank you!
Alright!
SWEETHEART

...YOU LOOK LIKE YOU'RE HAVING A GOOD TIME, BRO.
YEAH.
DEFINITELY GOOD TIMES.
Heh!

I'M WHERE I AM TODAY BECAUSE OF YUKARI-KUN.
HE'S THE REASON I WAS ABLE TO CHANGE.
NO... IT'S MORE LIKE I FOUND SOMETHING THEN.
THAT THING YOU LOVE MORE THAN ANYTHING ELSE..
WHEN YOU DISCOVER THE ONE THING...
...THERE'S NO TURNING BACK..
A WHOLE NEW...

...WORLD OPENS UP TO YOU.
I UNDER-STAND.
YOU DON'T HAVE TO EXPLAIN ANY MORE.
I'M JUST KIDDING. I WON'T CRITICIZE YOU ANY MORE.
OR HIM.
OR YOUR WORK.
BUT...
I'M SUDDENLY FEELING A STRONG SENSE OF HATRED.
I COMPLETELY UNDERSTAND THAT YOU AND YUKARI ARISAKA ARE MADLY IN LOVE.
SHIZU--
NO, REALLY, I'M SORRY I YELLED AT YOU.
Why can't you look me in the eye?
Um--

YOU...YOU BETTER COME HOME ONCE IN A WHILE.
ガー
////
ガー
V-1
Hmph!
CASE CLOSED?
Yee Hee!
99.58% CHANCE OF A ROLLER-COASTER WAVE RIDE ALERT.
HUH?
She woke up.
Totem pole

Awww, my brother is so cute, isn't he?!
♪
Stop it! How old do you think we are?
No, no.
THEY DEFINITELY TOOK A STEP FORWARD!
THIS IS A SHOP THAT CHEERS PEOPLE UP.
Oh, everyone is awake!
IT'S WITHOUT A DOUBT THE BEST JOB EVER.
Ha ha ha ha!
YOU JERKS!! STOP LURKING AROUND, SPYING ON US!

Episode 13

DONE!
Vinyl Bag
HEY THERE! THIS IS AGEHA
ジョキ
ジョキ
SQUEAK SQUEAK
PRE-PARATIONS COMPLETE! LET'S DO IT.
IT'S NOTHING OUT OF THE ORDINARY— IT'S JUST BEEN A WHILE. BUT TODAY...

HAI YAH!
...I DEVOTE MYSELF TO BAG MAKING.
WHAM
...DEAR, WHAT'S OUR DAUGHTER UP TO NOW?
BUT IT'S A WEEK-DAY.
SUNDAY DO-IT-YOUR-SELFING.
IT'S SO FUN TO SPEND SOME TIME ON MY HOBBY! ♡
Hee hee!
TAP
I'll have her make one for me too!
The entire house is vibrating like a bell
WHAM

V·B·I
HELLOOOO!
HMM? AGEHA-CHAN?!
ARE YOU ALONE? ARE YOU BUSY? AM I PESTERING YOU?
NO, IT, IT..IT'S OKAY..
WELL...
I THOUGHT YOU WERE BANNED FROM RUNNING WILD AROUND HERE
WHAT-ARE-YOU-DOING-HERE?!

WARNING: AGEHA HAS BEEN BANNED FROM V.B.R. DURING HER EXAM WEEK
FEAR YOUR EXAMS!
YOU'LL BE TESTED ON ALL YOUR SUBJECTS.
DON'T YOU UNDERSTAND? FINALS ARE THE END OF THE WORLD!
YEAH, YEAH. ONCE YOUR FINALS ARE OVER, YOU'RE WELCOME ANYTIME
THAT'S SO FAR AWAY!
A h
h
h
h !
I JUST NEEDED A BREATH OF FRESH AIR
INHALE SOMEWHERE WHERE I CAN'T SEE YOU
OOH, YOU'RE SO MEAN
Sniff
SO YOUR NEW CREATION IS A VINYL BAG.
IT'S NICE AND SUMMERY, ISN'T IT?
I demand attention
YES! I COULDN'T RESIST
SO, ARE YOU HERE TO SHOW OFF WHAT YOU'VE BOUGHT THERE?
HMM?

Y'SEE, I THOUGHT THE ONE WITH THE FLOWERS IN THE BOOK WAS REALLY CUTE.
SO I ADDED FLITTERING UTTERFLIES TO MAKE IT MATCH MY STYLE.
SHE'S TAKING PRE-CAUTIONS.
Ayaka-chan is gett-ng sharper
I MADE IT BEFORE EXAM WEEK!
OH.
Ha Ha
Momentary truce.
Defensive stance.
IT'S A JOKE.
Don't say it even as a joke.
HEY, MITSU, SHE HAS A WEAPON NOW.
BETTER WATCH YOUR BACK.
No sexual harassment.
I'D NEVER DO THAT!
OH, AM I GOING TO GET MY HEAD BASHED IN?
My goodness!
AND YOU HAMMER THE GROMMET THROUGH CUT-OUTS!! IT WAS FANTASTIC!
YOU TAKE A WOODEN MALLET ...
No need for a sound effect
Grommet
The metal ring in the middle

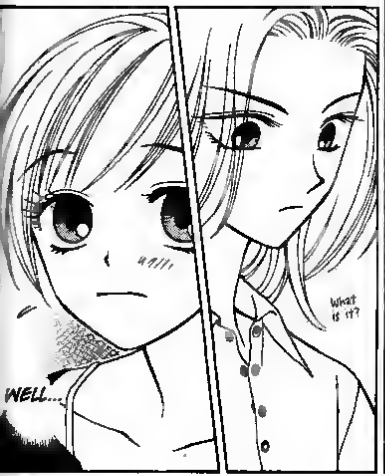
IT SEEMS...LIKE..
IT SEEMS LIKE...
THIS IS REALLY PRETTY.
THANKS.
Gulp.
WHAT A RECKLESS THING TO DO.
I HEAR YOU SNUCK INTO HOJO HIGH SCHOOL IN DISGUISE?
SPEAKING OF PHOTOS...
My brother knows all.
HOW... HOW DO YOU KNOW...?
Hehe, get the digital camera.
DO YOU MIND IF WE TAKE A PHOTO?
DO WHATEVER YOU WANT.
IT SEEMS LIKE ARISAKA-SAN'S TIMING...
...ALWAYS THROWS ME OFF-BALANCE.
But that attitude makes me happy.
It makes me feel warm, but cold.
A-: Paranoia or fear troubles me.

WHY DIDN'T YOU COME MODEL IT FOR ME?!
Mini skirt sailor outfit
I'M ASKING WHO SQUEALED ON ME!!
At least a photo?!
IDIOT, WHO COULD IT BE OTHER THAN SHIZUYA?
Hehe
Ayuko
Photo of the Month

THANKS TO YOU...
...I SPENT SOME QUALITY TIME WITH MY FAMILY.

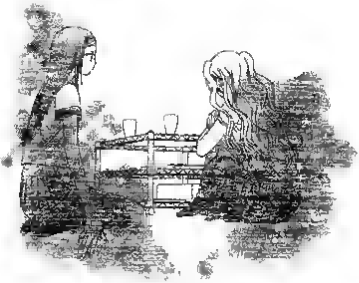
THE KUROMINE BROTHERS USED TO BE VERY DISTANT...
...BUT NOW THEY'VE HAPPILY RECONCILED.
Like this.
Notice: It's not like they were fighting though.
My brother is so cute!!
Let go of my brother, creep!
SORRY I MADE YOU WORRY IN THIS DIFFICULT TIME.
There was a point where I even made it worse.
NO, I THINK I WAS THE ONE WHO STUCK MY NOSE INTO YOUR BUSINESS.
SERIOUSLY, WHY DON'T YOU RESTRAIN YOURSELF? YOU MEDDLER.

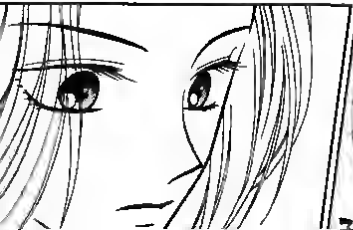
IT'S TRUE...
I HAVEN'T REALLY DONE MUCH OF USE, BUT...
MUCH OF USE...
I injured Kuromine-san...
Couldn't finish my sister's homework...
And interfered with the Kuromine brothers' private lives for my own personal reasons...
Huh?
WHY DON'T YOU STOP PUSHING PEOPLE AROUND?
GOSH, I'M SORRY.
I'M ONLY DOING WHAT I FEEL IS RIGHT.
Booo...
HE JUST REALLY TICKS ME OFF!
Grrr
IGNORE
Both have short fuses.

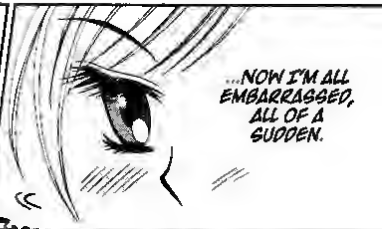


AT LEAST NOW I UNDERSTAND MY OWN FEELINGS.

I THINK I LIKE ARISAKA-SAN







NEXT TIME, I'LL TRY NOT TO KNOCK PEOPLE AROUND AS MUCH.
YUKARI-KUN, I THINK SOMETHING'S WRONG HERE...
べしっ べしっ べしっ
Jeez...
DON'T JUST GO QUIET LIKE THAT!
OKAY, I GET IT. IT'S MY FAULT TOO
べしっ
OF COURSE, I'VE ONLY KNOWN HIM FOR A BRIEF TIME.
Kyousuke-san has an unpredictable, dirty side!
YOU'RE APOLOGIZING WHILE YOU'RE SMACKING HER
WHAT? AREN'T I APOLOGIZING?
...
If you're going to repent later don't bother claiming good intentions in the first place
Satisfied that the girl is beaten.
Silence!
Phew!
IN RETROSPECT...
THESE TWO ARE SO CLOSE
I CAN'T ENTER THEIR CIRCLE
MAYBE THAT'S WHY ARISAKA-SAN WON'T TALK TO ME ABOUT HIS "BROTHER."
AND IT'S TRUE THAT I'M NOSY.

HE DOESN'T TALK ABOUT HIS MOTHER EITHER.
I bet that's because Arisaka-san takes after his father
"MOTHER"?!
ARISAKA-SAN'S MOTHER?!
I'VE NEVER HEARD THAT WORD COME OUT OF HIS MOUTH...
IT'S ACTUALLY KIND OF UNNATURAL.
wait.
COULD HE COME FROM A BROKEN HOME?!
It's po's-si-ble!!
THE "MOTHER" TOOK THE "BROTHER" ...
AND THEY WERE SEPARATED?!
HE SAID HE DOESN'T WANT TO BE BOTHERED.
HE DIDN'T TELL ME BECAUSE I'M NOT WORTHY.
I'LL WAIT PATIENTLY
...UNTIL HE DEIGNS TO TELL ME (FINISHED)

WHAT THE HELL WAS THAT?!
WELL I NEVER GET BORED OF WATCHING YOU..
BUT I'M GETTING A BIT WORRIED ABOUT... YOUR HEAD
I'M COMPLETELY SANE!
What? Me?
Ah she finally spoke.
Stop subtly handing your partner the lethal weapon!
AND IN FACT, THAT ERASED SIX ENGLISH VOCABULARY WORDS I PAINGTAKINGLY MEMORIZED!!

YUKARI-KUN, YOU GO TO THE BOOKSTORE FOR FRESH AIR TOO.
Ah that's not the same thing.
YOU UNDERSTAND HOW AGEHA-CHAN FEELS, RIGHT?
Hmm...

My manga is now a "Manga DVD"
It's a digital comic, with voices and sound effects to accompany the art on the screen! V.B.R. Chapter 5 and 6 are included. It's the episode on Hibari-san's wedding ceremony. I couldn't go to the studio recording, so I'm excited to find out how it sounds.

..Editor caught the flu

Hidaka working on the manuscripts, or..

The cast consists of these amazing voice actors!

Ageha — Nana Mizuki
Mitsu — Junichi Suwabe
Hikari — Ayaka Kawatomi
Maki — Shinichiro Miki

Thank you everyone who auditioned.

In addition, the Rose to Yume Volume 11 (May 2nd, 2005 issue) comes with a V.B.R. aluminum pen case!! A pen case as a supplement!! I was so surprised. We wanted to make something that wasn't character based! So I tried lots of designs. ♥ I'm excited to see how it turned out! ♥

It was fun interacting with the beautiful editor in charge of the supplement through phone and e-mail! ♥ (Hidaka's editor had the flu)

Polka dots/crowns, butterflies

WELL ...
I WAS GOING TO ASK AFTER YOU FINISHED YOUR TESTS, BUT ..
ARE YOU INTERESTED ...
THESE
..IN MAKING MORE WEDDING RABBITS, LIKE THE ONES YOU MADE FOR HIBARI-SAN?
WHAT?
I SHOWED A PICTURE OF THEM TO A CUSTOMER ...
...AND SHE ASKED FOR A TEDDY BEAR IN A REPLICA OF HER OWN WEDDING GOWN.
Hibari-san emailed me this!
WELL?
Eeeeee!! I want one! ♥
Oooh.
It looks like this
ME..?
IF YOU DON'T WANT TO--
It's not my real job, but
ARE YOU SURE?!
I'LL DO IT!!

LEAVE IT TO ME.
OH.
MY WORD CAN'T BE TRUSTED, CAN IT?
I have a record of not finishing things in time.
Self-doubt?
I HAVE FAITH IN YOUR SKILLS
But I want to do it.

THAT HAS A GREAT RING TO IT.
DON'T SAY THAT!
MAYBE NOT YOUR ACTIONS, BUT...
Laughter is essential.
Yukari-kun, you always say me 7th as too many.
She's mad now...
Uh, you were kidding?
HUMPH!
I'LL WORK HARD TO DO MY BEST.
I HAVE FAITH IN YOU. WOW

YEAH, DO YOUR BEST.
YOU'RE OUR ONE AND ONLY PART-TIMER.
JEEZ, I GOT IT ALREADY!
AFTER YOUR EXAMS.
I'll take off for the day
I'll take you home tonight.
Come on.
SO MANY THINGS ARE MAKING ME HAPPY NOW.
Here.
I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO...
THAT MAKES ME SO HAPPY

THIS IS ME WHEN I'M HERE.
IT FEELS SO GOOD TO BE INSIDE THIS CIRCLE
Full of pep!
MAMORU
IS IT TRUE THAT AGEHA-CHAN VISITED OUR SCHOOL THE OTHER DAY?
.....
AGEHA ALREADY TOLD YOU? SHE'S SUCH A SOFTIE.
NEVER A KIND WORD...
She sent me a happy text about it the next day.
Sigh.
AW, "NAT-CHAN," YOU KNOW THAT'S NOT TRUE.

I JUST LOVE TO PICK ON THE PEOPLE I LOVE, AND THEN LOVE THEM TO BITS AFTERWARD. I LOVE IT!
I'VE ALWAYS KNOWN THAT.
WHAT IS IT NOW?
IT LOOKS LIKE AGEHA HAS FALLEN IN LOVE.
HEE HEE!
WHAT'S HE LIKE?
YOU REALLY THINK I'D JUST TELL YOU?
NO
...BUT...

YOU AREN'T
THAT TWISTED, ARE YOU?
ALL RIGHT
HE'S SIX YEARS OLDER THAN HER, AND SHE MET HIM AT WORK
HE'S HANDSOME, AND A BIT OF A DIVA.
SHE'S PROBABLY SUSCEPTIBLE BECAUSE SHE'S NOT USED TO BEING PUSHED AROUND.
AH-HA
THAT'S
...NOT AT ALL WHAT I CALL FUN.

WHAT HAPPENED? YUKARI-KUN?
...NO...
THAT...
HOW SHALL I PHRASE IT...
.....
IT FEELS LIKE... SOMETHING IS CRAWLING SLOWLY FROM MY LOWER BACK UP TO THE NAPE OF MY NECK.
THAT SORT OF.. CHILL..
Who could it be?
THAT'S PRETTY INTENSE.
SHIVERS
How has it caught it
I'M GOING TO THE BOOKSTORE. YEAH, THE BOOK-STORE.
I like the bookstore.
I like it too.
A CHANGE OF PACE. YEAH, A CHANGE OF PACE. REFRESH!
RIGHT, THAT.
Ah ha ha!
Ah ha ha!

BOOK
SELLING
NAT-CHAN!
The new volume is out! But hardcovers take up lots of space.
I came to buy pencil lead.
Hee hee
I came to buy an eraser.
The books are on sale! Hmm!
I'm so glad I came here today!
AGEHA-CHAN!
HEY, IT'S NAT-CHAN. WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
Taking a breather?

AGEHA-CHAN, I HEARD YOU GOT A JOB?
UMM...
YES, IT'S A BOUTIQUE THAT MAKES WEDDING DRESSES.
MY NEXT PROJECT IS MAKING A TEDDY BEAR BRIDE.
SOOOOO CUTE! ♡
THAT'S AMAZING I'M REALLY HAPPY FOR YOU
UH-HUH! THANKS.
So I have to do my best with the exam!
THEY'RE PUTTING ME IN CHARGE, OR RATHER THEY PUT ME IN CHARGE.
I COULDN'T BE HAPPIER ABOUT IT!
JUST IMAGINE-- A CUSTOMER CHERISHING SOMETHING THAT I MADE!
HEY.
ARE YOU DONE?

ARISAKA-SAN!
He has a sort of presence.
IS THAT YOUR FRIEND?
"ARISAKA-SAN"...
YUP! WE'RE OLD FRIENDS
HE'S MAMORU-CHAN'S LITTLE BROTHER, "NAT-CHAN"...
.. ALSO KNOWN AS NAGARE-KUN.
SMIRK
EH?
NAT-CHAN, THESE ARE MY CO-WORKERS.
Ah, Mamoru-chan. They look alike.
THEY PICKED ME UP AFTER SCHOOL.
ARISAKA-SAN (RIGHT) AND KUROMINE-SAN (LEFT).
ARISAKA-SAN ARISAKA-SAN ARISAKA-SAN ARISAKA-SAN.
NICE TO MEET YOU.
NICE TO MEET YOU.
Copyright

NAT-CHAN, DID YOU GET TALLER?
GRAB
!!
YEAH, I'M 5'5".
But Ayaka-chan gets mad when I'm taller than her.
AW, NO! BUT YOU WERE THE ETERNAL SCHOOL-BOY!
You're even taller than me!!
I'M JUST RELIEVED THAT I'M TALLER THAN MY SISTER.
AH, WELL GOOD FOR YOU, THEN!
NOW THAT YOU'RE TALL, YOU'LL HAVE TO WORK ON BECOMING HANDSOME
Ha ha ha!
HEY.

あつ
Ah
This is a bookstore
THE EYES OF THE PUBLIC ARE UPON US
YOU.
ARIGAKA-SAN, YOU'RE SUCH A BEAST.
What?!
YOU'RE THE BEAST, AGEHA-CHAN B-E-A-S-T
That's humiliating
ARE YOU TAKING AFTER MITSU?
Hmm?
You're calling me a sexual harasser?!
NAT-CHAN, I'M SO SORRY!
DID I SEXUALLY HARASS YOU?? SEXUAL HARASS-MENT?!
WHAT...? UH, NO.
Distance

THAT DOESN'T HELP MY CASE, DOES IT?
I'M USED TO IT.
Aww, how charmingly naïve.
I'M FINE.
Heh heh!
AWW...
Dude, Sakashita knows some flashy people
Cool!
I'M ACTUALLY HERE WITH SOME FRIENDS.
Bye, Nagare-kun's friends!
OKAY THEN. SEE YOU LATER, NAT-CHAN.
YUP! SEE YA.
Oh, she's pretty
WHAT?! ARE YOU SURE, KUROMINE-SAN?
It's on the way
UM, NAGARE-KUN? DO YOU NEED A RIDE?
I CAN TAKE YOU HOME.
HE LIVES NEAR ME. NAT-CHAN, NAT-CHAN, LET'S GO HOME TOGETHER!
♪ ♫
OH!
THAT'S VERY KIND OF YOU, BUT...

NOD
I DON'T PARTICULARLY CARE IF SHE ALREADY LIKES SOMEONE.
I GOT A BAD FEELING
SAD DEALING?
THAT WAS OUT OF CHARAC-TER.

...OR WAS IT BECAUSE IT WASN'T BOTHERING HIM?
YOU WOULDN'T HAVE DONE THAT IF I'D BEEN THE ONE SHE'D HUGGED IN PUBLIC.
COME ON, GET IN THE CAR.
OKAY.
Whispered secrets
AWWW...
THAT'S BECAUSE YOU'RE ALWAYS GLOMPING PEOPLE ANYWAY.
Really?
IT WAS BOTHERING THE BOY.

Episode 14

WHEN I'M LIGHT-HEARTED..
...IT JUST FEELS NATURAL...
...TO HUM A HAPPY SONG!
LA
LA LA!
Humming a tune.
Enka?
YOU BET! AFTER ALL...
Tee hee!
...I FINISHED MY EXAMS, SO MY BAN HAS BEEN LIFTED.
OF COURSE I'M EXTRA-CHEERY!
YOU LOOK HAPPY, AGEHA-CHAN.

Whee!
NOW I CAN JUST LOOK FORWARD TO SUMMER BREAK.
I SEE.
YOU MUST BE VERY CONFIDENT IN YOUR TEST RESULTS.
AWWW... I DID MY BEST!
If you flunk everything, you won't be staying out "summer break!" huh?
Ugh.
THAT SOUNDS PROMISING.
I'M ASSIGNED TO PROJECT: BEAR BRIDE.
I'M REALLY LOOKING FORWARD TO IT.
FAILURE IS NOT AN OPTION.
PEACE SIGN
DON'T SAY IT LIKE THAT.
YEAH YEAH, YOU'RE A GREAT HELP SINCE YUKARI-KUN TENDS TO GRAB JOBS WITH BOTH HANDS.
You're so enthusiastic about this job.
And I flip her crazy-switch?
It tires me...if
Like that he tries hard, but humans have limits!
Stop touching me all the time!

THE UH BROTHER WE RAN INTO AT THE BOOKSTORE--
HEY, AGEHA
NAT-CHAN?!
BY THE WAY, MAMORU-CHAN.
AND NAT-CHAN SAID IT WAS NICE TO MEET YOU
Nice to eat you?!
KUH HUH KUH
ISN'T HE ADORABLE?
HE'S SUCH A SWEET KID!
La la la♥
What about me?
That's what they said?
MORE CONFUSION
ARE YOU BLIND?
Can my attention find her?
Her?
You must be blind!
Hey! Stop it! What's with you all of a sudden?

Hmm...
I think he's actually in a good mood.
UH...HE'S IN A BAD MOOD?
I THINK HE'S JUST WORN OUT.
WHY?
ビク
Was I too rowdy?
He's at a difficult age.
That doesn't make sense.
じっ…
よろ
?
?
...I'M GOING TO ROSA
Heh...
Heh
OH, YEAH, THAT MIGHT BE PART OF IT.
CAN'T SAY THAT'S ALL OF IT THOUGH
IS HE OVER-WORKED...?
UM... SENSEI!
YES, MS SHIROI?
YES, YES?
MAY I ASK A QUESTION?
He vividly pays more attention to me.
I GUESS I GOT TOO EXCITED OVER THE BAN BEING LIFTED!
Agonizing

?!
NOPE.
Ends of discussion...?!
Flat out!
ARE THERE ANY OTHER PART-TIMERS HERE?
WELL, IT'S NOT LIKE...
..WE'VE NEVER HAD ANY BEFORE.
What should I say?
There's so much work
HOW COME?! HOW COME?
I'VE ALWAYS WONDERED.
What?
SEE, OUR BOSS IS QUITE POPULAR WITH THE LADIES.
Pop ular?

BUT IT'S A ONE-WAY STREET.
WAS THERE OFFICE ROMANCE?!
REALLY REALLY POPULAR
REALLY REALLY POPULAR?!
OMIGOD!
WHAT DOES THAT MEAN?!
Yukari-san in Middle School
HE HELPED OUT HIS DAD AT THE STORE SINCE HE WAS A LITTLE BOY.
HE WORKS HARD, HE'S PRETTIER THAN A GIRL...
AND HE'S A GOOD GUY BENEATH THAT SNOOTY EXTERIOR.
What the hell am I wearing?
YUKARI-KUN IS ROSA'S IDOL.
Woo hoo! My
IDOL?!

No one wants to quit...
THAT'S WHY THE TURNOVER RATE AT ROSA IS SO LOW.
I'LL WORK EXTRA HARD AT VELVET TOO!
He's a hard working idol!
He had no trouble when he took over the company!!
Woo hoo!
Old, Young, male, female---everyone loves him.
I WANT TO JOIN IN WITH THE EXCITEMENT!!
WATCHING HIM WAVER AS HE CARRIED HEAVY BOXES ALWAYS GET THE STAFF A-SQUEAL.
Squeal!!
Uh oh
WOBBLE

THE GIRL CONFESSES HER LOVE.
SHE GETS DUMPED BY ARISAKA-SAN.
IT GETS AWKWARD (ONE-SIDEDLY).
SHE QUITS, SOBBING.
BUT UNLIKE THE TIGHTLY-KNIT ROSA TEAM, THE PART-TIMERS...
...AT VELVET INTERACTED WITH HIM DIRECTLY, SO...
Did you...
No
I love you!
That was fast
Believers.

Flat out!
DOES HE ALWAYS REJECT THE GIRL?
ALWAYS.
Sigh!
He's---everyone's idol.
THAT'S THE PATTERN.

Uhh...
...IS REALLY AWKWARD.
BUT WHAT'S STUCK IN MY MIND IS THAT JUST IMAGINING HIM REJECTING ME...
DOES "LAST GIRLFRIEND" MEAN HE'S FREE NOW?!
IT'S AWKWARD, BUT...
Yi...
Part-timers can't fall in love?!

HIS LAST GIRLFRIEND WENT TO THE SAME HIGH SCHOOL AS HIM.
HE'S NEVER DATED A PART-TIMER.
GIR...GIRLFRIEND?!

AND UNREQUITED LOVE MUST BE A HEAVY BURDEN FOR HIM TO BEAR.

SAFE!!
THE PART-TIMING PART IS IRRELEVANT.
Ha ha ha.

RELATIONSHIPS ARE TOO TIRING AND TOO MUCH OF A HASSLE FOR HIM.
HE APPRECIATES THEIR FEELINGS...
...BUT HE CAN'T RETURN THEM.

JUST THINKING ABOUT HIM IS OFF LIMITS?!
HEAVY... AM I HEAVY?!
BUT AS LONG AS ARISAKA-SAN DOESN'T KNOW HOW I FEEL, THERE'S NO PROBLEM, RIGHT?
I'm so smart!!
WAIT A SECOND
Woo hoo!
Ball Three.
I'm so stupid.
MUST I KEEP IT A SECRET FOREVER??
Pitcher makes a foul and three outs
End of game.
"DOES HE ALWAYS REJECT THE GIRL?!"
"ALWAYS."
BUT. IF HE FINDS OUT, WON'T I HAVE TO LEAVE?
Tee hee!
WHAT SHOULD I DO...?
My world always revolves around Yukari-kun
HOW ABOUT YOU TRY BEING IN YOUR OWN WORLD, KUROMINE-SAN?
Really!!
Incoherent
AGEHA-CHAN, YOU'RE OFF IN YOUR OWN WORLD
Oh~
Sorry, I spaced out for a moment there.
Bear ventriloquism.

I'M HOME.
I CAN'T LET HIM KNOW I LIKE HIM!!
しゅうん
I DON'T KNOW BECAUSE I'VE NEVER BEEN IN ONE
ARE RELATIONSHIPS REALLY A HASSLE?
Passionately loved her sister for 16 years
HEY, WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?!
I'M DROPPING OFF A SOUVENIR MAKOTO-KUN GOT ON HIS BUSINESS TRIP
HIBARI!
WELCOME BACK, AGEHA! ♡
YAY! HIBARI!

OH, RIGHT
I'M... HO...
HOME?
Totally blushing.
OH, MAKOTO-KUN, YOU'RE BACK FROM YOUR TRIP. WELCOME HOME.
Good evening.
She doesn't call him big brother anymore
GOOD EVENING, AGEHA-CHAN
Sorry about barging in
Repenting.
I'M SORRY I USED TO BADMOUTH YOU
HEY, MAKOTO-KUN, SHE'S WORSHIP-PING YOU.
WHAT?!
But why?!
She likes you
Nanu mycha renge kyo
HUH. AMAZING.
I CAN SEE HIS WARMTH AND GOOD WILL NOW.
HE'S A GOOD BUY
Maybe a sweetie?
Why are you smiley raised?
No, just I don't know, I don't know
You're happy

So, Episode 13 has quite a few scenes that I like

I was finally able to display him openly!!

Well well well I wanted to draw a "Yes, this girl's brother would be like this!!" kind of boy ^^.

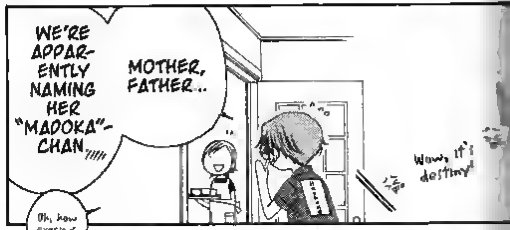
When I was in the naming process, the editor laughed and said, 'Wow, these siblings really are something.' I think you can already tell, but the Sakashita siblings are my favorite characters. They still have lots of appearances to go. As long as they don't eat up the main characters.

But there is one problem. It takes so much time to draw highlights for characters with black hair... On top of that, if Mitsu or Hikari comes into the scene, it makes me cry ;_;; But I like doing it. I wish I could do it more easily.

The title page for Episode 13 featured the winner's dress in the dress drawing contest! ♥ Thank you to everyone for sending in their drawings.

I'm so fortunate that I got so many illustrations ♪

I WANT IT TO BE IN HIRAGANA... ♡
I LIKE THAT! ☆ HIRAGANA, HIRAGANA.
♪
Excellent!
BINGO!!
WHAT'S HER NAME?! WHAT'S HER NAME?!
I'M STILL THINKING. ♡
SO, AGEHA...
IT TURNS OUT THAT THE BABY IS DEFINITELY A GIRL.
She is in her seventh month.



MADOKA...
MADOKA.
PLEASE BE A HEALTHY, HAPPY BABY.
MADOKA-CHAN IS A CUTE NAME
IT'S ADORABLE, ISN'T IT?
TALK TO HER A LOT, OKAY?
I WILL.
HIBARI, CAN I TALK TO YOU FOR A SECOND?
WHAT IS IT?
..YEAH.
UM, SO...
SO, UM...

I THOUGHT IT WAS ALL BLUE SKIES AHEAD. AS LONG AS WE WERE TOGETHER..
I THINK IT'S WHEN YOU WANT TO SPEND MORE TIME WITH SOMEONE.
?!
SPEND TIME..?
IT'S UP TO YOU BOTH WHETHER OR NOT THE RELATIONSHIP IS A HASSLE
I DON'T WANT TO PRETEND IT'S ALL FUN AND GAMES, BUT..
OOH!
WANT TO HEAR ABOUT THE WORST FIGHT MAKOTO-KUN AND I EVER HAD?
It's really stupid.
That's kind of scary
NO THANKS.

WHAT DOES IT FEEL LIKE TO... BE IN LOVE??
OH..
THE... THEN...
She's steaming?
What's going on?
YOU AND MAKOTO-KUN GET ALONG REALLY WELL, RIGHT?
YEP!
BUT WE STILL FIGHT.
REALLY?!
Only sometimes
HMMM.
Kmm?
FOR ARISAKA-SAN, RELATIONSHIPS ARE A HASSLE.
Murmurs By Mitsuya
I FINALLY FELT INCLUDED IN THEIR GROUP.
SNIFFLE...
NOW I FEEL LIKE I'VE PLUMMETED FROM HEAVEN TO EARTH.
WAAAH! SO IT IS A HASSLE.
FULL OF MOUNTAINS AND VALLEYS?
HIH.
Noo oooo!
A HASSLE?

I like how Makoto-kun goes around...
How sometimes he's naive and spacey, how he comforts me when I'm down..
..and the rare occasions when he's all handsome and put together
All of that is so so SO cute to me!
And it makes me soooooo happy that I can be with him
Yes!
Makoto-kun is dancing around
I didn't know Hibari-chan was such an intense person.

A lot of stuff bothers me, and sometimes I get jealous..
...I love him and want to help him, and he truly is very important to me
..not to mention nervous and worried.
But all in all..
That's where I'm at right now

EVEN WHEN WE'RE APART
I FEEL CLOSE TO MAKOTO-KUN, AND HE SUPPORTS ME
I'M HAPPY JUST KNOWING THAT HE EXISTS.
She just wanted to hear...
So what were we talking about?
WILL I BE ALLOWED TO..

...STAY CLOSE TO HIM...?
WHAT?
WHAT DID YOU TELL HER?
I SAAAID, I TOLD HER WHY THE PART-TIMERS ALL QUIT, OKAY?
she asked
IS THERE A PROBLEM?
A PROBLEM, YOU ASK?
A PROBLEM
DID YOU NOT REALIZE HOW BAD IT MADE ME LOOK?!
OH, DARN!
I FORGOT TO TELL HER THAT YOU DON'T MIND NO-STRINGS-ATTACHED FOOLING AROUND.
THAT'S NOT NECES-SARY.
welcome

YOU SHOULDN'T TOY WITH PEOPLE
I'M SORRY, I WAS JUST MESSING WITH HER
AW, BUT YUKARI-KUN...
WHY WOULD YOU TELL HER SUCH NON-SENSE?!
YUKARI-KUN, I JUST EXPLAINED ABOUT THE LEGEND OF YUKARI! ♪
I covered all the high points!
Don't explain anything!
...YOU LIKE HER, DON'T YOU?
THE EYES OF THE PUBLIC ARE UPON US
AH, WELL, GOOD FOR YOU, THERE!

"I'M SORRY, YUKARI"
"YUKARI, NEXT TIME, OKAY?"
...WELL...
"I'LL KEEP MY PROMISE NEXT TIME."
"NEXT TIME."
...WELL...
THAT
"NEXT TIME, I PROMISE"
"NEXT TIME."

WOULD JUST BE TOO SAD FOR HER
!?
I THINK I'M THE ONE WHO FLICKED THE WEIRD-SWITCH IN ASUKA-CHAN

IF YOU HAVE SOMETHING TO SAY, GET SOME GUTS AND SAY IT!
AH! YUKARI-KUN, DOMESTIC VIOLENCE!!
Ough
I... I WILL...
I WILL... WORK HARD AND GIVE IT MY ALL.
TRACEY...?
MY ALL.
YES?
Where to?
COME ON. LET'S GO, MITSU.

WE NEED A CHANGE OF PACE
IT'S THE BEACH
Hooray!
IS IT THE BEACH?!
ARIGAKA-SAN!
FLING
FLING
BEACH BEACH BEACH ...
BEEEE-AAACH.
Soothing.
Yup, the ocean.
Puppies love the beach.
AH, I'M SO GLAD WE BROUGHT HER HERE.
Wheeeee!

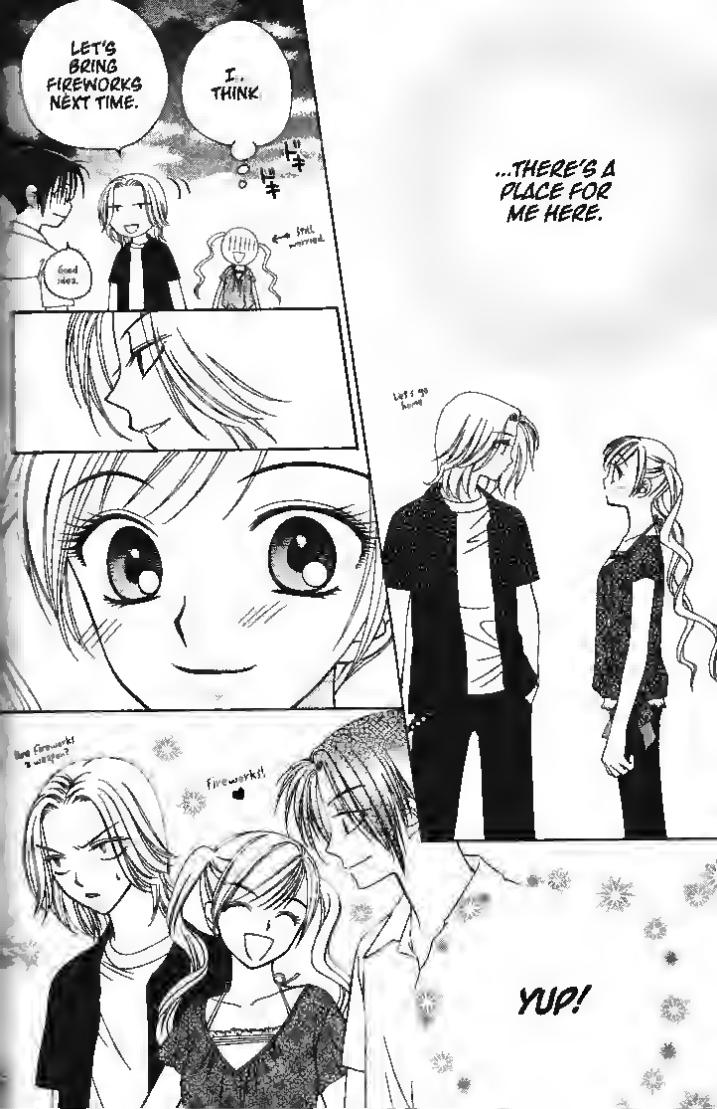
LET'S RE-ENACT THE DUEL BETWEEN MUSASHI AND KOGORO! ♪
?!
THE AGE OF CHIVALRY RETURNS
FLING
FLING
HE'S ACTUALLY INTO IT?
Ha ha
ha ha!
BRING IT ON!
Hmm?
Ha! ~Yah!
Doryyyah!
Ha. That's a scary sight
And which one's Musashi?
♂ Musashi had two swords.

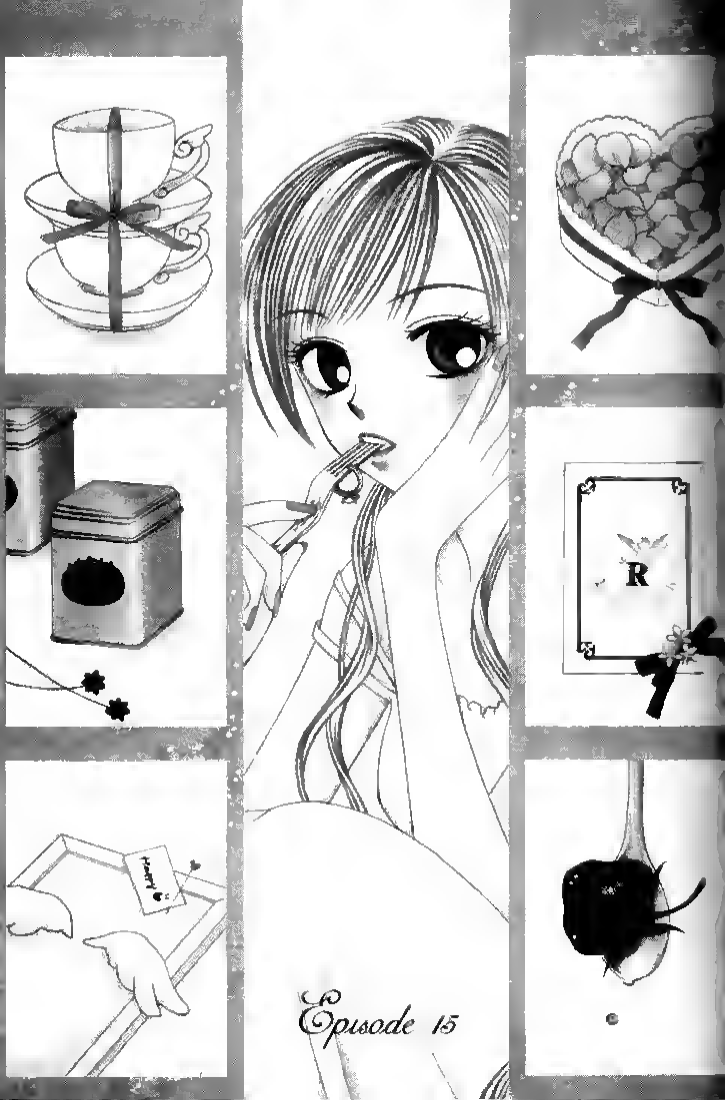
OH WELL.
THEY LOOK LIKE THEY'RE HAVING FUN!
DAMN--MITSU, YOU BASTARD!
WHAT KIND OF WACKY IMPRESSION DOES SHE HAVE OF ME NOW?
PLEASE DON'T LET HIM REALIZE, PLEASE DON'T LET HIM REALIZE.
BUT IT'S SO FUNNY WHEN HE GETS SO ENTHUSIAS-TIC!
They're both deep in thought.
OH, MAN. ENOUGH!
LET'S STOP, I'M WIPED OUT.
ARISAKA-SAN IS GETTING OLD..
HEY, HOW'S THE BEAR COMING ALONG?
IT.. IT'S COMING ALONG?
Abrupt
She doesn't realize anymore how sketchy this looks
WILL HE BE DONE WITH ME ONCE I'M DONE WITH THE BEARS?!
Such a pessimist.
ABOUT THOSE PART-TIMERS...

HMM?
A LOT OF THEM QUIT BECAUSE THEY HAD PERSONALITY CLASHES WITH ME
HAS THE TIME FINALLY COME?
OH, HA HA... I DIDN'T KNOW THAT YOU KNEW.
WHAT?
PUNCH
BUT I GET IT
A PERSON LIKE YOU IS OFTEN MISUNDERSTOOD.
Ah ha ha.
I've gotten used to it!
IS... IS HE POUTING?
Although Ruriko was harsh
It's partly cause the people at Aoi's were always fawning over me.
That's kind of cute.
AS I'M SURE YOU'VE REALIZED I'VE GOT A SHARP TONGUE AND A BAD ATTITUDE.

HUH?
THAT'S WHY...
NO MATTER HOW ROCKY IT GETS...
...WHEN YOU KEEP WORKING, AND YOU STILL SMILE..
I THINK THAT'S AMAZING.

YOU'RE THE FIRST GIRL WHO EVER ARGUED WITH ME.
AH.
BECAUSE...
RIGHT NOW I DON'T CARE WHETHER OR NOT HE FINDS OUT.

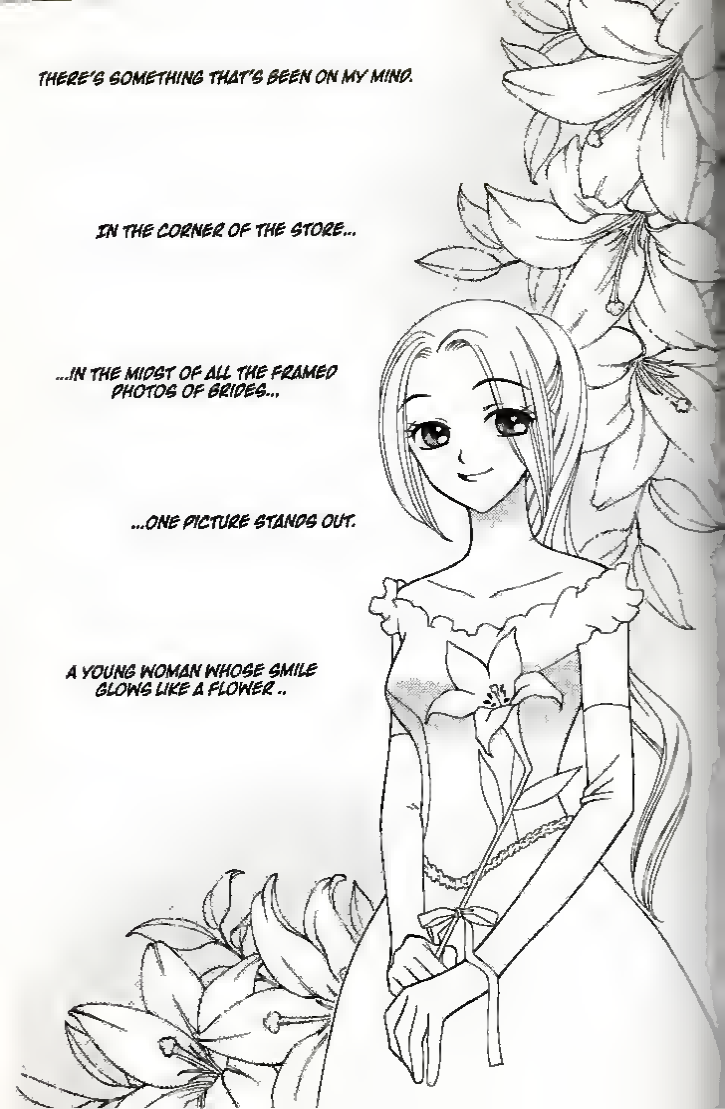

LET'S BRING FIREWORKS NEXT TIME.
I, THINK.
ドキ
ドキ
Good idea.
Still worried.
...THERE'S A PLACE FOR ME HERE.
Let's go home
Hey fireworks? I wonder?
Fireworks!
YUP!

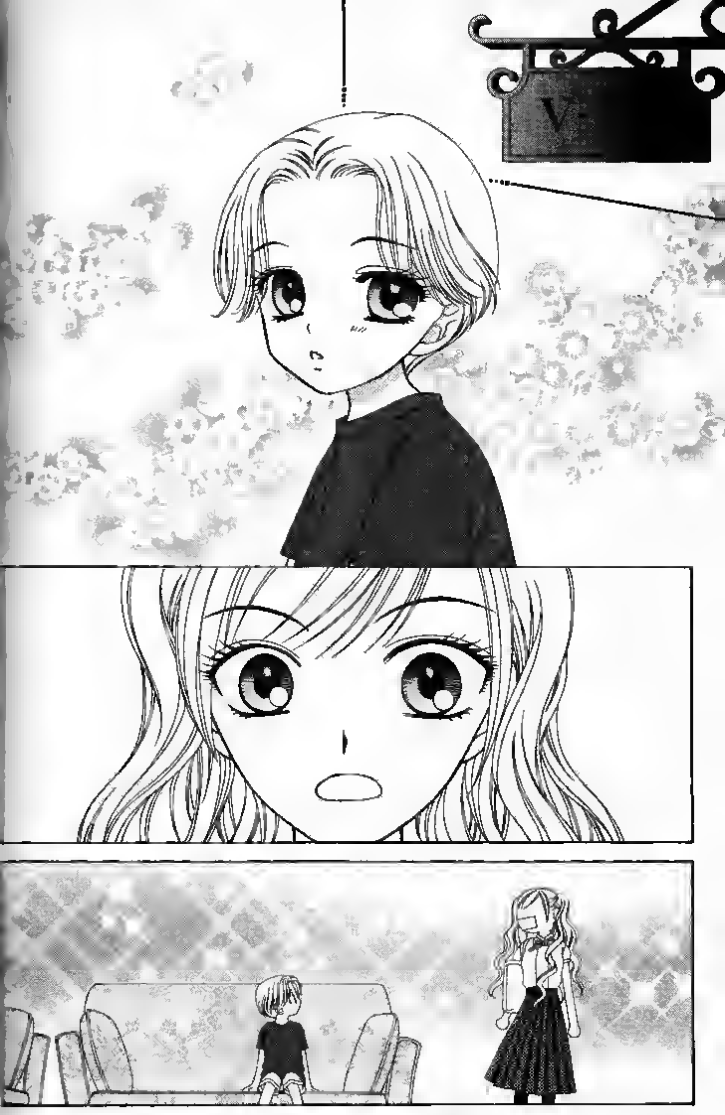


Episode 15

"Well, well. It's his, that line is awesome."
These two are awesome. They're so scary
The editor's reaction to a conversation between the Sakashita siblings while we were creating chapter 13
He Likes it
I'm glad I was finally able to bring in Nagare.
Hee hee
Yes, yes, my pen flowed during that scene! (laugh) ♪
Is it okay to have flowers in the background? (laugh)
Is that bad?!
HGCK!

It's fun to put flowers in the background!


THERE'S SOMETHING THAT'S BEEN ON MY MIND.
IN THE CORNER OF THE STORE...
...IN THE MIDST OF ALL THE FRAMED PHOTOS OF BRIDES...
...ONE PICTURE STANDS OUT.
A YOUNG WOMAN WHOSE SMILE GLOWS LIKE A FLOWER ..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ちょん
もぎゃん
MINI ARISAKA-SAN?!
WHAT HAPPENED TO YOU, ARISAKA-SAN?! HOW'D YOU GET SO SMALL?
HEY.
A... ARISAKA-SAN...
BIG BROTHER!!

BIG BROTHER?!
SAKURA, ARE YOU ALONE? WHERE'S MOM?
I TOLD HER I WANTED TO SEE YOU, SO SHE BROUGHT ME HERE.
BUT THEN SHE GOT A CALL FROM WORK, SO SHE HAD TO LEAVE.
ぽか〜
ARISAKA-SAN'S BROTHER?! HE'S THIS YOUNG?!
OH, I'M THE ONE WHO CALLED HER IN TO ROSA.
She should have told me Sakura was here
SO YOU WAITED PATIENTLY ALL BY YOURSELF.
WHAT A GOOD BOY.
YEAH, I WAS WAITING.

WHO'S THAT?
Eh, do I look like a lunatic?
AGEHA?
WHO, AGEHA?

OH MY GOD, CUTENESS OVERLOAD!!

じっ
Wait, I mean...
"AGEHA-CHAN"

にこお
AGEHA-CHAN?

WHAT-WHAT-WHAT IS THIS VISION OF CUTENESS?!
YOU'RE TAKING OFF?
Say it again!!
AGEHA-CHAN, WILL YOU PLAY WITH ME?
HE HAS A NATURAL AFFINITY WITH GIRLS.
I'm concerned about my little brother's future.
Ah..
Whatever you like, darling!
SEEMS HE REALLY LIKES AGEHA-CHAN.
SAKURA, INTRODUCE YOURSELF.

Completely smitten.

ほのぼの
MY NAME IS SAKURA ARISAKA AND I'M FOUR YEARS OLD
You're so sweet
SO YOU'RE SAKURA-KUN.
NICE TO MEET YOU MY NAME IS AGEHA SHIROI.
Let's play!
I DIDN'T KNOW YOU WERE SO MUCH OLDER THAN YOUR BROTHER, ARISAKA-SAN.
Look at me
AH, WELL, YOU KNOW.
UM...
But she asks anyway.
...DIVORCED FAMILY?
Aack
I'll Behave!
OH, HE DOESN'T WANT PEOPLE TO BE NOSY!!
NO, IT'S TOO COMPLICATED SO I DIDN'T BOTHER EXPLAINING.
HMM? YOU DIDN'T KNOW, AGEHA-CHAN?
I haven't told her anything
Have some tea
Strange family circumstances, I guess...
OH. WHO DID YOU HEAR IT FROM?
I GUESSED RIGHT.
That makes it easier

NOT REALLY-- MY PARENTS DIVORCED WHEN I WAS FIVE.
WEREN'T YOU LONELY WITHOUT YOUR MOM?
Actually it's worse to have my dad around.
Next I'll draw a giraffe!
Four ten years ago?
YEAH, THAT'S HOW IT GOES.
SO YOU AND SAKURA-KUN DON'T LIVE TOGETHER.
But he's sooo cute
Your Lion is great.
I kinda feel bad about it.
I drew a Lion

WHO'S BEEN FEEDING YOU FALSE INFORMATION?
HUH?
? ?
Warning: Assumption.
THEN YOUR MOM HAS CUSTODY OF SAKURA-KUN?

OH, RIRIKO-SAN.
SAKURA'S MOTHER IS~~
MOMMY!
SAKURA, I'M SORRY I KEPT YOU WAITING.

RIRIKO-SAN, YOU'RE SAKURA-KUN'S MOTHER?!
RI-RIRIKO-SAN...
OH, HE LIKES YOU ALREADY.
HE'S A SUCKER FOR PRETTY FACES, JUST LIKE ME.
PRETTY!
MOMMY?!
THAT'S RIGHT.
I'M GONNA STRANGLE YOU.
Roar!
WHEN DID YOU GIVE BIRTH TO ARISAKA-SAN?!
She was an integral part in building my character
I REMEMBER WHEN I BLURTED SOMETHING OUT AND SHE WENT BALLISTIC ON ME.
SHE DOESN'T GO EASY ON ANYONE.
Gyaaaa!
That actually hurts a lot
THERE IT IS
SHE UNLEASHED THE RIRIKO-STYLE IRON CLAW.

I GOT YUKARI INVOLVED IN MY LONG-TERM PLAN, AND MADE AOI-SAN FALL IN LOVE WITH ME.
Yay!
Tee hee!
RIRIKO ARISAKA (28).
SHE'S THE WOMAN MY DAD MARRIED WHEN I WAS IN MY FIRST YEAR OF HIGH SCHOOL.
It's before her birthday
I GOT TO SEE MY DAD FALL IN LOVE WITH A WOMAN 15 YEARS YOUNGER THAN HIM.
She's only six years older than me, and yet she's my step-mother

YOU CAN CALL ME YOUR HONORED ELDER SISTER.
I WOULD'VE NEVER IMAGINED THAT THE NEIGHBORHOOD FLOWER SHOP GIRL WHO USED TO TAKE CARE OF ME WOULD END UP MY MOTHER.
YEAH RIGHT, WHO'S GOING TO CALL YOU THAT?
WAIT, WAIT! I HAVE A QUESTION!
WHY HAVEN'T I EVER SEEN SAKURA-KUN AT V.B.R BEFORE?

HER WORDS ARE SO SERIOUS, BUT HER TONE IS SO LIGHT-HEARTED.
HOW COULD HE PASS AWAY AND LEAVE HIS YOUNG WIFE ALONE?
Dooooh, Sakura, that is your father's star!

Entered pre-school this spring.
THE BAN WAS LIFTED.
SO WE BANNED HIM FROM VBR UNTIL HE WAS OLD ENOUGH FOR PRESCHOOL.
WE HAD A TRAUMATIC EXPERIENCE WHEN SAKURA ACCIDENTALLY RUINED ONE OF OUR FINEST GOWNS.
THAT'S BECAUSE
In a three year pre-school he was born in April.
!!!! YIKES ..
Sakuraaaa...
Ahhhh!
Aright, Sak-kun? Your boy brother was seriously about to cry.
I LIKE TATAMI MATS AND KOTATSU HEATERS!!
I CAN'T LIVE IN A HOUSE FULL OF STUFF TAILORED TO RAN-CHAN'S TASTE!!
Pfuh, it's a store.
YOU GET USED TO IT.
I'M USED TO IT TOO.
RAN-CHAN?
True Japanese
It's a 30 minute walk
MY PARENT'S HOUSE
WHERE DO YOU LIVE, RIRIKO-SAN?
I used to live here.
MY MOM BABYSITS SAKURA WHEN I'M BUSY
DOES THAT SOUND LIKE A GOOD HOME TO YOU?
AND CUSTOMERS ARE ALWAYS COMING IN AND OUT...
I MEAN, WITH THIS PLACE THE SEWING MACHINES CLACK AWAY DAY AND NIGHT
WHAT ABOUT ME? I'VE BEEN LIVING HERE SINCE I WAS BORN
I see.

YUUUU-KARI!
DAMN.
A bear? Bear, real bear. Likes bamboo leaves. What do bamboo leaves taste like?
RAN-RAN THE PANDA?
Wh-when was this? Wait, what are we talking about?
THE VIOLENT, BLACK AND WHITE ONE IN THE RACCOON FAMILY.
COME ON, YOU KNOW. LIKE AT THE ZOO?
SHE'S AN ACTRESS OR SOMETHING.
DO YOU RECOGNIZE HER?
WATCH IT, YUKARI.
WHOA!
THAT'S AN OLD PICTURE, BUT...
BUT SHE'LL MAKE IT INTO SOME BIG DEAL AND ALL.
IT'S NOT LIKE IT'S A SECRET.
They're talking about me.

RAN KASHIWAGI
SO IT REALLY IS RAN KASHIWAGI.
SHE'S SO FAMOUS I ALWAYS WONDERED IF IT WAS HER
YOU WERE ALWAYS CURIOUS?
In yours. Wow, so the cute back then!
SHE WRITES HER REAL NAME AS "RAN" FROM THE KANJI THAT MEANS "INDIGO."
WHY DIDN'T YOU EVER ASK ME?
UH.
WHAT?!
SHE'S MY MOTHER.
SO YOU WEREN'T THAT CURIOUS
..I I JUST FORGOT
Ha ha ha!

SHE WAS 18 WHEN SHE HAD ME.
WHAAAAT?!
STOP BEING SO AMAZED BY EVERY-THING.
Ouch...
ばしっ☆
So young!!
It's like a comedy sketch...

HIS MOM IS A CELE-BRITY!!
I'm just a regular ordinary person.
WHY SHOULDN'T I BE SUR-PRISED?
THAT'S FANTASTIC.
WHAT IS?
Um
It doesn't matter what your parents do.
Unless you have your own accomplish-ments
...it's not worth bragging about.
Okay, okay
My brother pick me up

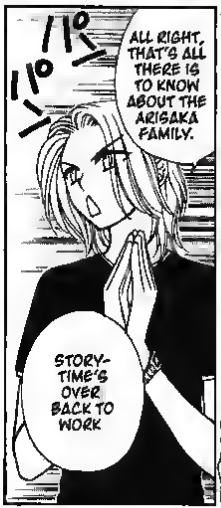
On the last day of January, Nakajanska had a New Year Party. I make time for this every year to see my other manga artist friends ✿. Recently, I've tried to get the naming process done before the party. (So your best next year too, me...)

My roommate, like always, is my artist friend, Kyoko Sejihara. We've known each other for a while—Oh, it'll be a full 10 years once March hits!! It's a Sweet Ten Diamond!! (Nonsense)

We love to drink Japanese tea and eat Sakura-mochi (my specialty) (laugh)

This year Tachibana Kiyuchi-san gave me some cherry blossom tea again ♡ Thank you! ♡ A subtly pink flower blossoms in the tea—so pretty ✿

I had some with my assistants during our midnight break, while we worked on the manuscripts ♡



Her day off.
BY THE WAY, WHY ARE YOU HERE?
AH. I WANTED TO SEE IF YOU HAD ANY LEFTOVER FABRIC...
...THAT I COULD USE FOR THE BEAR'S DRESS.
DID YOU FAIL THE FIRST TIME?
I CERTAINLY DID NOT!

There's something similar
If there any left over?
ARISAKA-SAN?
Uh-huh
HE'S THE SON OF YOUR FAVORITE ACTRESS, RAN KASHIWAGI.
DID YOU KNOW SHE HAD A CHILD?
What's it like to have such a young pretty mom?
IT GOT A LOT OF PUBLICITY A WHILE BACK
OH, WHEN WAS THAT?
I THINK AROUND WHEN WE STARTED PRE-SCHOOL?
No wonder you didn't know!
THAT'S A LONG TIME AGO.
What a fan.

IT'S AMAZING, DON'T YOU THINK?
TO HAVE A FAMOUS ACTRESS MOTHER!!
THE INTERIOR DECORATION IN THE STORE WAS ALL SELECTED BY RAN KASHIWAGI.
I love sparkly things! ♪
NO WONDER I LIKE THEM. ♪
Wander
I love sparkly things!
BUT YOUR ROOM IS VERY SIMPLE.
WHAT I LIKE TO LOOK AT AND WHAT'S EASY TO LIVE WITH ARE TOTALLY DIFFERENT CONCEPTS.
MAMORU-CHAN, YOU'RE ALWAYS SUCH A MAMORU-CHAN.
ARIGAKA-SAN HAS A MATTER-OF-FACT ATTITUDE ABOUT THE WHOLE THING.
I WONDER IF IT'S SINCERE.
FAME MUST NOT MEAN MUCH TO HIM.
YEAH, I GUESS.
But, he's an adult. He's not some child who worries about his mommy!
Here's another emotionless person.
STILL NOT SATIS-FIED?

...WHO HAS A TRUE AURA THAT HE PROJECTS.
YOU CAN'T HELP BUT THINK, "WOW, E'S AMAZING"
THERE'S A SPECIAL SPARKLY BRILLIANCE ABOUT HIM, EVEN WHEN HE'S JUST STANDING THERE
ARISAKA-SAN IS THE TYPE OF PERSON...
AGEHA...
WHAT YOU'RE SENSING IS HIS WILLPOWER
OH, IT'S WILL-POWER!!
YES, WILL-POWER.

NO MATTER HOW GREAT YOUR PARENTS ARE, YOU MUST SHINE WITHOUT PUTTING IN YOUR OWN EFFORT.
YOU ARE HERE TODAY ... AGEHA, BECAUSE OF YOUR HARD WORK IN THE PAST.
BUT I HAD AN ULTERIOR MOTIVE.
"To make my sister happy"
THAT DOESN'T CHANGE THE FACT THAT YOU LIKE TO MAKE THINGS.
YEAH, I LIKE IT.
SO, DID YOU DECIDE ON A BASKET?
I've had my eye on it for a while
OH, YEAH, I CHOSE THIS ONE.
SHOW ME THE BEAR WHEN YOU'RE DONE.
IT'S FINISHED. YOU COULD COME BY ANY TIME.
OH, THAT WAS A FAST JOB.
Come fee, come fee
DON'T YOU THINK ARISAKA-SAN WOULD PREFER IT.
IF YOU CONCENTRATED ON YOUR WORK INSTEAD OF OBSESSING ABOUT HIS PARENTS?

YOU... YOU THINK SO?
Heh heh...
HE'S NOT SO SELFLESS THAT HE'D KEEP A USELESS EMPLOYEE.
Thanks for the vital info on the c... conclusion
YOU'RE RIGHT ABOUT THAT...
I'M SORRY, I WAS JUST SAD ABOUT HOW COLD ARISAKA-SAN WAS...
BUT YOU'RE RIGHT. THE HARDER I WORK, THE LONGER I CAN STAY WITH HIM, AND IT'S ALMOST SUMMER BREAK.
THE ARISAKA FAMILY SITUATION STILL BOTHERS ME, BUT I'VE GOT TO FOCUS ON DOING WHAT I DO BEST!!
GO FOR BROKE

GOOD AFTER-NOON!
AGEHA-CHAN, CATCH SAKURA FOR ME!!
WHOOPS
Work is good, but don't forget to come play with me!
I'll play
A little later
キャッ
whoooo
whoooo
WHOOOO!
NICE TIMING, AGEHA-CHAN.
AGEHA-CHAN!!
SAKURA-KUN!

Your big brother doesn't lie
WILL HE PLAY WITH ME WHEN HE WAKES UP?
DIDN'T I TELL YOU TO BE QUIET WHILE YOUR BROTHER IS SLEEPING?
WHEN HE'S DONE WITH WORK.
WHAT?!
BAIT?!
SAKURA RESPONDS WELL TO BAIT.
Phew!
RI...I...LE...CU...!!
Translation: Rikiko-san, I can't abandon this cutie-pie
OH, SORRY, AGEHA-CHAN.
I'm so sorry!
IF YOU'VE GOT TIME, HANG OUT FOR A BIT...
OH, OKAY.
YUKARI WILL PROBABLY WAKE UP BEFORE YOU GO.
UHM...
THEN I'LL LEAVE THIS HERE...
ARISAKA-SAN'S ASLEEP?
HE'S JUST NAPPING.
You'll leave me too...?

UM, RIRIKO-SAN.
HMM?
WHY DID AN ACTRESS FROM THE CITY...
...GET MARRIED IN A LITTLE COUNTRY TOWN LIKE THIS?
The main rail lines don't even stop here
Just a simple question
What should we make?
I BET ARISAKA-SAN WAS JUST AS CUTE WHEN HE WAS THIS AGE.
Let's do origami.
SO SHE OFTEN RAN AWAY FROM TOKYO TO COME HERE.
RAN AWAY?!
HUH?
IT WAS A SANCTUARY FOR HER ..
Thanks!
Have some apple juice, Sakura
OH. I SEE.
RAN-CHAN'S GRANDMOTHER'S HOUSE WAS IN THIS NEIGHBORHOOD.
Not any more, though.
...THAT NO ONE CAN FAIL TO GUESS THE FATHER!!
ALL THE CHILDREN LOOK SO MUCH LIKE AOI-SAN ..
Daddy's DNA
ARISAKA'S FATHER COULDN'T EVADE THE PURSUIT?!
SHE PURSUED HIM, AND THEY GOT MARRIED.
RAN-CHAN FELL IN LOVE AT FIRST SIGHT WITH A MAN WITH A BEAUTIFUL SMILE WHO WAS THREE YEARS OLDER THAN HER.
A baby in the house at last!
Wow...

Ran-chan, what are you doing?
I'm looking for a feature like mine.
Ririka, what are you doing?
I'm looking for a feature like mine
THEY WERE SO SIMILAR THAT I HAD TO SEARCH TO FIND FEATURES LIKE MINE.
But I was lucky to have such a beautiful baby!
RAN-CHAN DID THAT TOO.
THE ARISAKA FAMILY'S FEAR-SOME DNA!
SHE ENTERED THE ENTERTAIN-MENT INDUSTRY AFTER SHE GOT DIVORCED
IS ARISAKA-SAN...
ON. .BAD TERMS WITH HIS MOTHER?
HE HAD SUCH A BRUSQUE ATTITUDE ABOUT HER.
NO.
HE PROBABLY JUST DOESN'T CARE.
Oh Are you sleepy?
YUKARI WAS ALWAYS AN UNDER-STANDING CHILD.

HE WAS VERY.. COMPLIANT.
I DON'T QUITE KNOW..
..HOW YUKARI FEELS ABOUT RAN-CHAN.
...I THINK THERE'S A GAPING HOLE IN HIS HEART.
ALL I CAN TELL YOU IS THAT..

SHE'S THE WOMAN AOI-SAN CHOSE...
...AND SHE'S YUKARI'S MOTHER...
SO I DON'T WANT TO SPEAK ILL OF HER, BUT...
...AS A MOTHER, RAN-CHAN WAS A LIAR, AND I HATED THAT.
LIAR?
RIRIKO.
STOP THIS BABBLING. IT'S NONE OF YOUR CONCERN.
TCH
A-ARISAKA-SAN.

HOW MANY YEARS HAVE I BEEN YOUR GUARDIAN?
I'M YOUR MOTHER AND YOUR SISTER.
YOU'VE BEEN A SON, A BROTHER AND A SISTER TO ME!!
YOUR GLARE DOESN'T FRIGHTEN ME.
A SIS-TER?!
WOULD YOU RATHER BE A DAUGH-TER?
STOP IGNOR-ING GEN-DER!
Sister
Mother
HM. I'LL HAVE MY MOM WATCH HIM FOR A BIT.
OH, SAKURA IS SLEEP-ING.
THIS CONVER-SATION IS GOING OFF THE DEEP END.
BUT AT LEAST I NEVER BORE YOU, RIGHT?
Ha ha ha!
IT'S MORE FUN THAN I CAN HANDLE.
Mosotan
DAMN HER... JUST BECAUSE SHE'S RIRIKO, SHE THINKS SHE CAN BOSS ME...
I won't take it out on her.
I'LL NEVER FORGIVE YOU IF YOU TAKE THIS OUT ON AGEHA-CHAN.
SLAM
HA HA HA. YOU GUYS GET ALONG GREAT.

HEY, HEY, ARISAKA-SAN.
SAKURA-KUN IS SUPER CUTE, HUH?
HA HA HA!
BECAUSE I'M THE "DAUGHTER."
OH YEAH.
HE REALLY IS TOTALLY ADORABLE.
...BUT WHEN IT COMES TO HIS MOM, HE'S SO DETACHED.
HE CAN HAVE A WONDERFUL SMILE LIKE THAT...
"HE DOESN'T CARE..." BECAUSE HIS MOM LEFT WHEN HE WAS FIVE?
Yeah, I'm starting to understand.
HE'S DEFINITELY A FAN OF THE LADIES, THOUGH.
Ayaha is going to die.
I wonder where he got that from.
OH, GOD! YOU'RE THE CUTE ONE NOW!!

WHAT DOES THAT EVEN MEAN?!
RIRIKO-SAN SAID SOMETHING ABOUT A HOLE IN HIS HEART, BUT...
...HOLE, HOLE, HOLE...
I'M SO CURIOUS.
!!
Ahh
I said it wasn't my concern...
BUT ARISAKA-SAN DOESN'T WANT ME TO WORRY ABOUT IT.
Pointless...
IF HE DOESN'T CARE, HOW CAN ANYTHING BE GAPING?
WHATEVER. YOU'RE WEARING JEANS, AREN'T YOU? SO IT'S OKAY.
IT IS NOT OKAY!
What are you a little kid?
Gyaaaah!
DON'T FLIP MY SKIRT!!

I ASSUME YOU'RE WORRIED ABOUT WHAT RIRIKO SAID.
Y-YOU'RE NOT A KID WHO CRIES OVER HIS MOMMY.
SO YOU DO UNDER-STAND.
MAMORU-CHAN, BINGO!!
IT'S TRUE...
SHE WAS A LOUSY MOTHER.

Episode 16

"SHE WAS A LOUSY MOTHER."
...

DON'T GET ALL WORKED UP ABOUT IT!! JUST DON'T!
BUT...BUT YOU SAID LOUSY, YOU SAID LOUSY!
My neck... You're choking me...
ギリギリ!!
DID SHE TOSS PEOPLE AROUND IF SHE DIDN'T LIKE THEM?
OR SQUEEZE THEIR NECKS 'TIL THEY BENT LIKE STRAWS?
YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT ME, YOU BRAT.
IT'S NOT LIKE THAT... IT'S MORE LIKE..
SHE COULD NEVER KEEP HER PROMISES.
"...AS A MOTHER, RAN-CHAN WAS A LIAR, AND I HATED THAT."
OH--
SO THAT'S HOW SHE LIED?

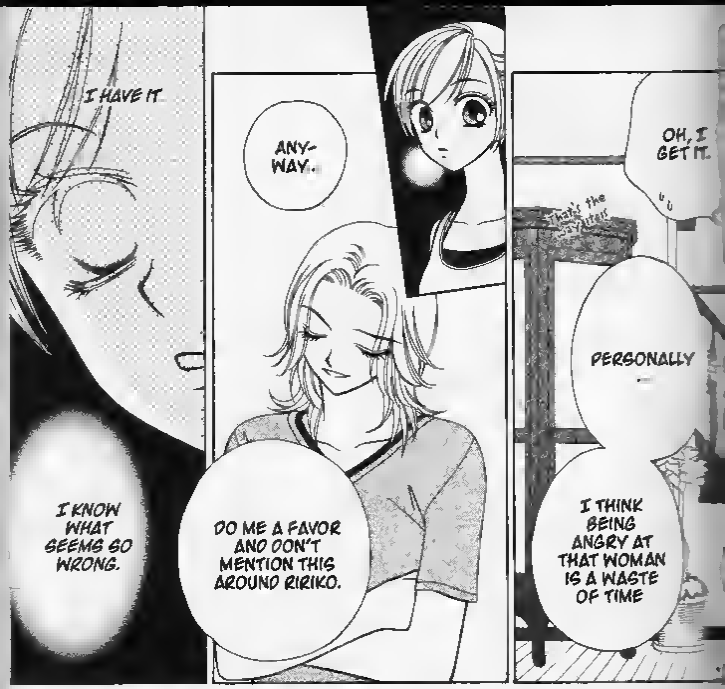
IT WASN'T QUITE LYING. THAT WOMAN IS A MASTER OF FORGET-FULNESS.
SHE ALWAYS PUTS HERSELF FIRST.
MAYBE BECAUSE SHE BECAME A MOTHER SO YOUNG, HER TOP PRIORITY WAS ALWAYS HAVING FUN.
BUT SHE'D STILL PROMISE TO TAKE ME PLACES.
IF YOU CAN'T KEEP A PROMISE, YOU SHOULDN'T MAKE IT.
Ha ha..
AREN'T YOU LONELY?
SHE WAS ONLY IN MY LIFE UNTIL I WAS FIVE.
I CAN TALK ABOUT HER...
...BUT I DON'T HAVE ANY SIGNIFICANT MEMORIES.

AND THERE WAS THE TIME SHE SAID SHE'D BE RIGHT BACK.
I ALMOST FROZE TO DEATH THAT SORT OF THING HAPPENED EVERY DAY.
AM I SUPPOSED TO LAUGH NOW?
Yukari!!
Aa~papa
Aa~mama
Ah! Yukari!!
ALTHOUGH NOW THAT YOU MENTION IT..
I DO REMEMBER THAT ONCE HER COOKING ALMOST GAVE ME FOOD POISONING.
Well, she'll still young
Aa~chan, you're killing yourself to look young!!
Meow
Meow
Meow
Meow
EVEN BACK THEN, RIRIKO HAD SOME HILARIOUS INSULTS.
BUT EVERY TIME THE TV WENT ON, THAT WOMAN WAS THERE.
Did you forget anything?
Nope
Back in middle school.
BUT RIRIKO AND YURIKO-SAN--RIRIKO'S MOM--LOOKED OUT FOR ME TOO.
USUALLY MY DAD TOOK CARE OF ME
Let's say you do
She seriously talked to the TV.

EVEN THOUGH SHE WASN'T AROUND...
...I DIDN'T HAVE TIME TO THINK ABOUT BEING SAD.
W.. WHAT?
THAT SOUNDS LIKE YOU "HAVEN'T SEEN HER."
"AVEN'T SEEN HER.
I HAVEN'T SEEN THAT WOMAN SINCE I WAS FIVE.
WHAT?!
22 MINUS 5 IS 17...17 YEARS?!
BUT I THOUGHT TWO YEARS AGO--

THAT WOMAN NEVER EVEN CAME TO MY DAD'S FUNERAL.
SERIOUSLY, HOW IMPORTANT CAN WORK BE?
Her answering machine said, "I'm filming, so I can't answer the phone ♥ If you need something, please leave a message" ♥
UM... YOU DON'T EXACTLY HAVE THE RIGHT TO SAY THAT.
I'M THE IMAGE OF MY DAD, BODY AND SOUL.

OH, ARE YOU HUNG UP ON THAT?
YOU ENJOY MEDDLING IN OTHER PEOPLE'S LIVES, DON'T YOU
IT'S AN ADDICTION.
BUT SOMETHING'S BOTHERING ME... SOMETHING DOESN'T FEEL RIGHT.
MEH I GUESS IT'S OKAY FOR YOU TO BE YOU
forgive me!
RIRIKO IS STILL MAD AT THAT WOMAN FOR ALL THAT
SHE SAYS, LIKE, "HOW COLD-BLOODED, KAN-CHAN"
I'm a bad person.
I'm not sure if I should be happy or not
OIO HE JUST ACCEPT MY MEDDLING AS A PERSONALITY TRAIT (A BAD ONE)? I'M ACCEPTED?!


I HAVE IT.
I KNOW WHAT SEEMS SO WRONG.
ANY-WAY..
DO ME A FAVOR AND DON'T MENTION THIS AROUND RIRIKO.
OH, I GET IT.
That's the reason!!
PERSONALLY
I THINK BEING ANGRY AT THAT WOMAN IS A WASTE OF TIME

SHE DOESN'T HAVE A NAME

ARISAKA-SAN, YOU CALL YOUR MOTHER "THAT WOMAN."

OH, AGEHA-CHA--
HELLO, EVERYONE! MITSUYA'S BACK!

...
SLAM
WHEN I WAS A KID...
...MY PARENTS MADE ME CALL THEM "PAPA AND MAMA."
OH, I SEE.
Is that noteworthy or not...?
BUT WHEN I STARTED ELEMENTARY SCHOOL...
...I CHANGED IT TO "DAD."
BUT SEE, THAT WOMAN, THAT--

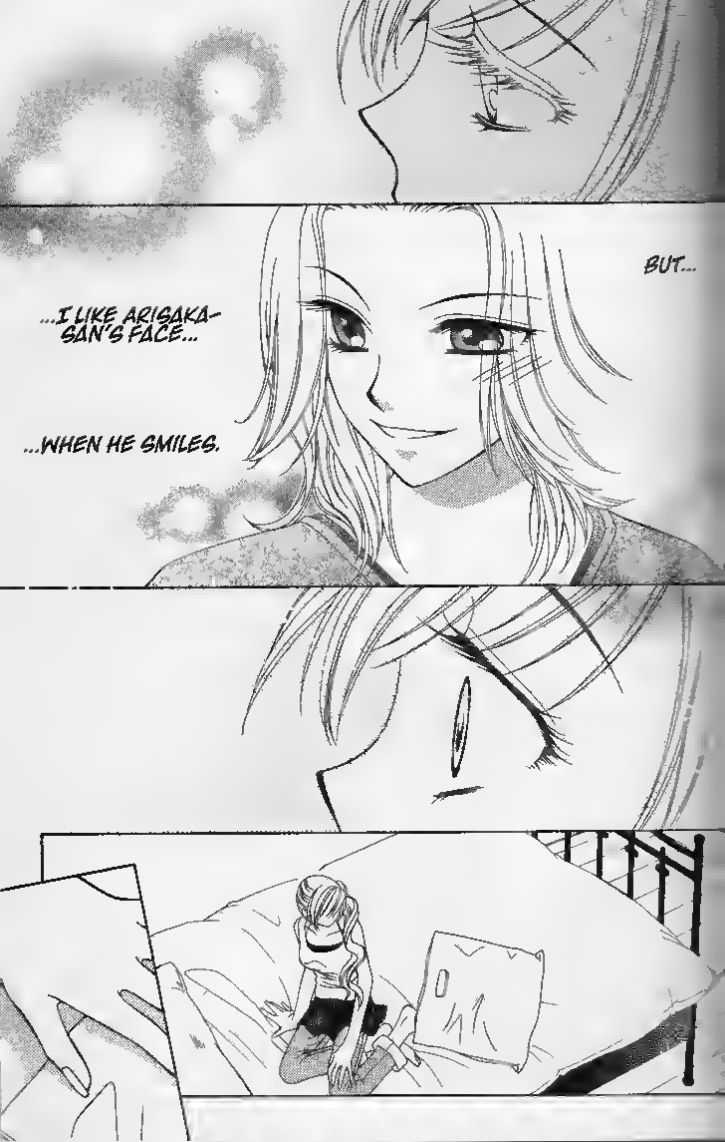
YEAH! SINCE WE SEPARATED WHEN I WAS FIVE.
RAN-SAN?
Heh!
UM
Hmmm
WHETHER FAMILY OR A STRANGER, AS THE CONVER-SATION LEADS YOU?
DON'T YOU JUST CALL THEM THIS, THAT, OR THE OTHER.
WHO I NEVER SEE OR TALK TO.
I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO CALL SOMEONE...
BUT SHE
GAVE ME A LOOK LIKE, "OH NO, I SAID IT" AND THEN SHE RAN OUT

The day after the New year party, Kyoko, Tachibana Higuchi-san, Pasta Mochizuki-san and I went shopping!
Higuchi-san tried on some cropped pants.
Oh, how cute!!
What do you think?
They look good. They match the boots you're wearing.
I have short legs
There's a dragonfly team on the back right pocket
They looked so good that I had to try them on too (laugh)
Oh, my gosh.
This is so nice
Buy them, buy them!
PERFECT FIT
So then we both bought the pants! We match! (laugh) I want to go out in these pants soon.
It's so much fun shopping with cute people I want to go shopping with them again!
YOU HAVE A POINT.
DOESN'T THAT HAPPEN ALL THE TIME?
He's even harsher than I am
DID YOU GET THEM AT YURIKO-SAN'S PLACE?
Ryuka's mom. (Flower shop owner)
YEAH, THE ONES THAT BLOSSOMED TOO SOON.
Specially adorned with a ribbon!
Here, pass
I BOUGHT AGEHA-CHAN SOME FLOWERS.
OH!

BLEAGH
OF COURSE IT'S GROSS!!
WHAT, ARE YOU HUNGRY?!
What are you doing?!
I'M NOT HUNGRY.
Just be patient. I'll get you some tea
?!
CHOMP
もしっ
THE RED IS PRETTY, BUT...
...IT ISN'T HER STYLE.
BY THE WAY, YUKARI-KUN...
DID AGEHA-CHAN LEAVE SOMETHING?
NOPE, NOTHING.
REALLY?

RIRIKO-SAN SAID SHE CAME BY TO DROP OFF SOMETHING
I STEPPED ON A LAND MINE.
The "Oh no, I said it" look.
AND ON TOP OF THAT, THEN I RAN AWAY.
WHY DO I ALWAYS BLURT OUT WH SHOULDN'T BE BLURTED?!
THERE'S NO EXCUSE

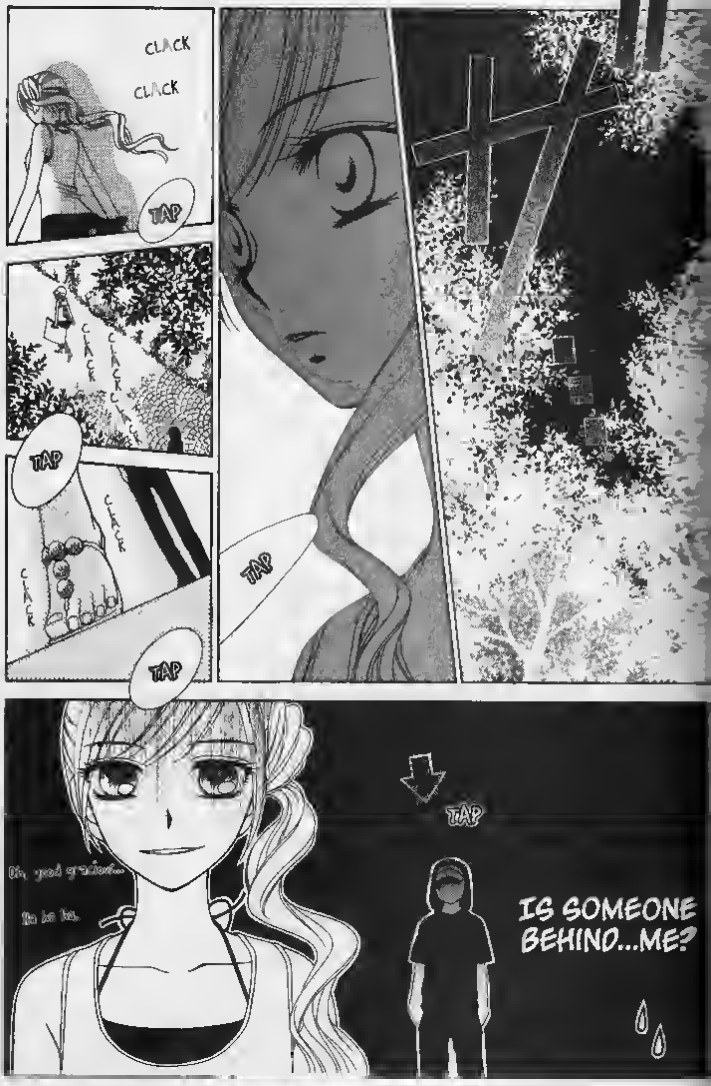
I WONDER WHAT HE THOUGHT.
HIS FACE JUST FROZE FOR A SECOND.
I DON'T WANT HIM TO FIRE ME
Sigh...
I'VE MADE HIM MAD AS MANY TIMES AS THERE ARE STARS IN THE SKY...
...BUT THAT WAS THE FIRST TIME I MADE HIM GO SILENT.
...I BROUGHT BACK THE BEAR THAT I SPECIFICALLY WENT THERE TO DELIVER?!
PLUS.
THIS.
Why did I even bother?


BUT...
...I LIKE ARISAKA-SAN'S FACE...
...WHEN HE SMILES.

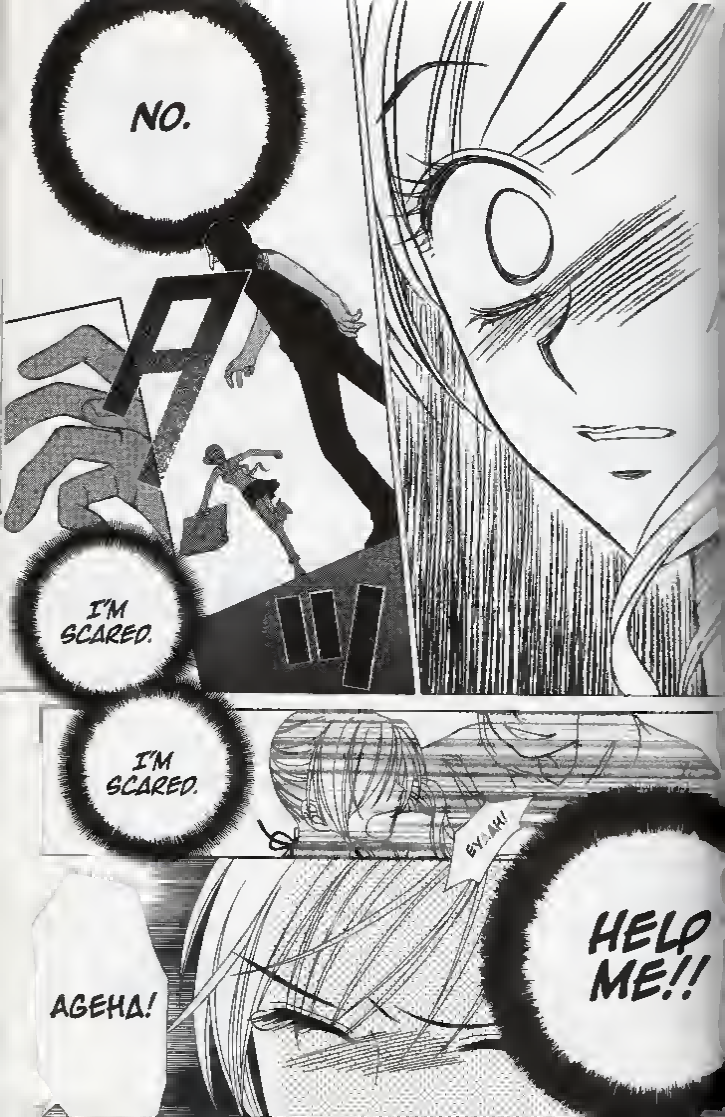
TODAY I'LL SHOW ARISAKA-SAN...
...THE FINISHED PRODUCT.
I HAVE A MISSION TO ACCOM-PLISH!!
AND I'LL APOLOGIZE FOR MY CARELESS REMARK!!
APOLOGIZE,
APOLOGIZE,
APOLOGIZE,
APOLOGIZE!
That's all I think of.
THEN...

THEN ARISAKA-SAN...
...WILL SCRUNCH UP HIS EYEBROWS..
...AS IF HE'S HAD ENOUGH OF ME...
...BUT HE'LL STILL GIVE ME AN "OH WELL" LOOK.
...
HE ALWAYS
...
I'M SORRY.
BECAUSE...
...THAT TIME WITH MY SISTER, AND EVEN AFTER THE SHIZUYA-KUN INCIDENT..
ALL RIGHT, LET'S HEAR YOUR STORY.
FOR SOME REASON...

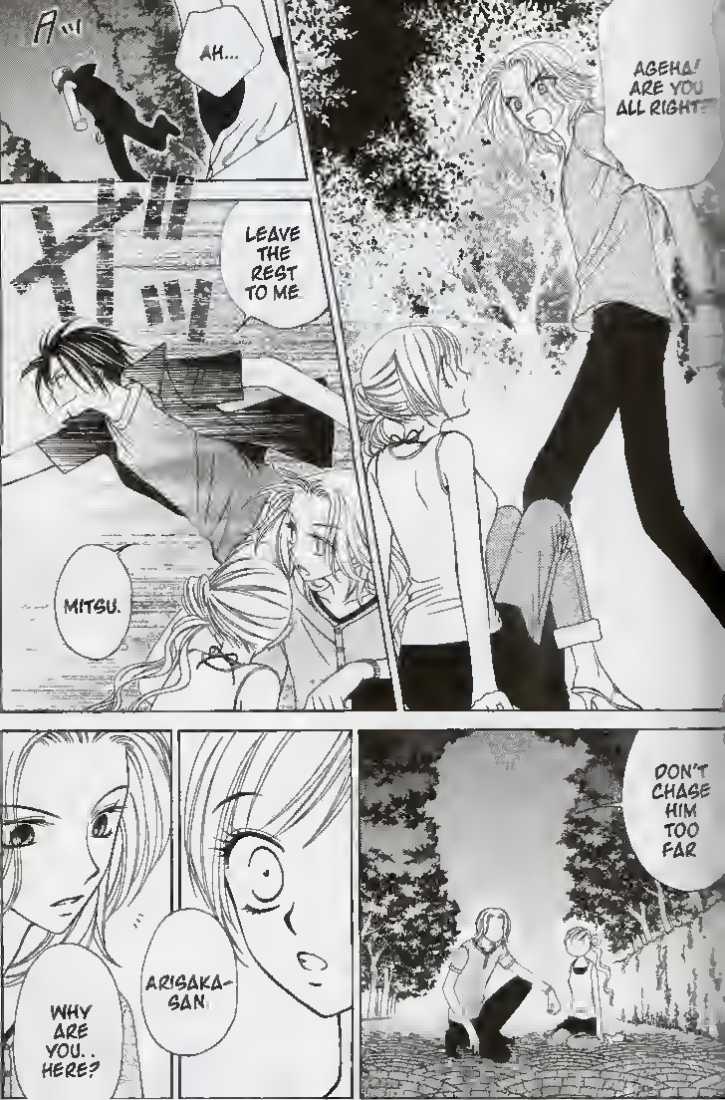
HE LISTENED TO WHAT I HAD TO SAY.
I'LL JUST HAVE TO TRUST IN ARISAKA-SAN'S CHARACTER.
WAS I OVER-CONFIDENT ...?
Repeating questions and answers. (Inside her heart)
Mission, mission.
WELL FOR NOW I'LL JUST DISPLAY THE BEAR I WORKED SO HARD ON
UM...
I will
destroy anyone who goes against me.
CHARAC-TER?!


CLACK
CLACK
TAP
CLACK
CLACK
TAP
CLACK
CLACK
TAP
TAP
Oh, good grief...
Ha ha ha.
TAP
IS SOMEONE BEHIND...ME?

TAP
TAP
BUT MAYBE A GHOST WOULD BE BETTER?!
CLACK
CLACK
CLACK
TAP
TAP
TAP
A G-G-G-GHOST?!
DON'T
LIKE
THIS!!
I WANT TO THINK...IT'S JUST SOMEONE HEADING IN THE SAME DIRECTION.
THEY DON'T HAVE (GOLID) FOOTSTEPS, DO THEY?!
CLACK
CLACK
MAYBE IT'S ARISAKA-SAN?!
Ah!
That'd be okay


NO.
I'M SCARED.
I'M SCARED.
EYAAH!
HELP ME!!
AGEHA!

PIGS OFF AND DIE!

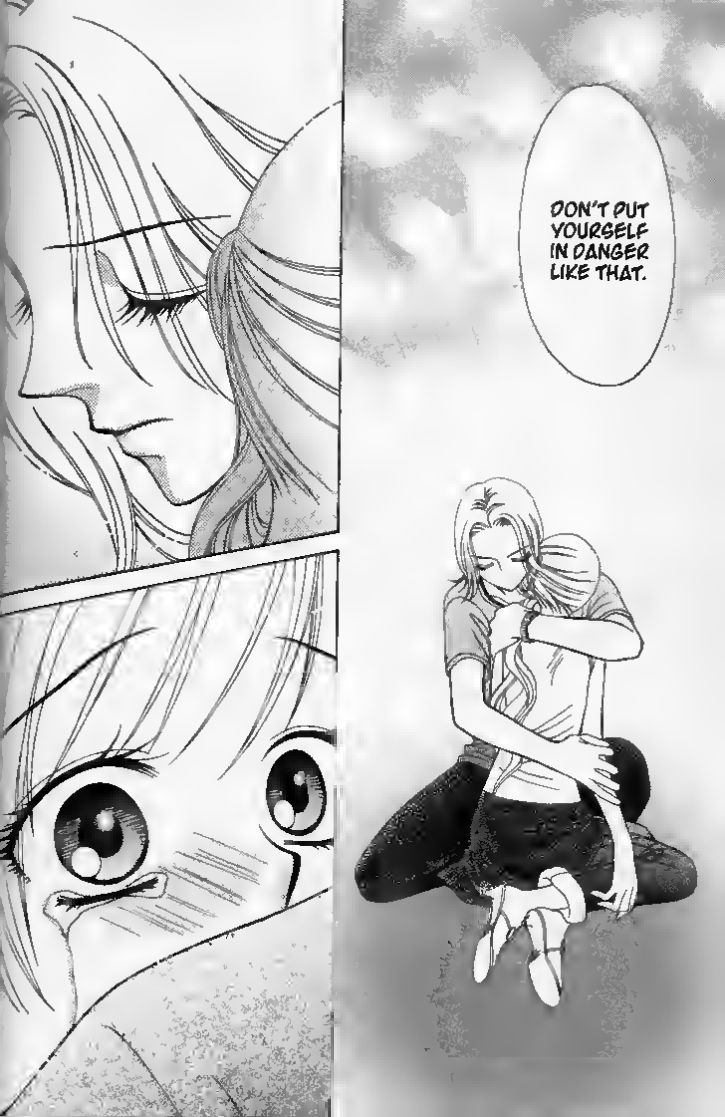

AH...
AGEHA! ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
LEAVE THE REST TO ME
MITSU.
WHY ARE YOU.. HERE?
ARISAKA-SAN.
DON'T CHASE HIM TOO FAR

WE FOLLOWED YOU BECAUSE YOU WERE TAKING SIDE STREETS, AND WE THOUGHT IT MIGHT BE DANGEROUS.
...WHEN WE SAW YOU WALKING THE OTHER WAY.
...WHAT?
WE WERE DRIVING TO YOUR HOUSE...
Grope...
...SO THERE'S A LOT OF GROPERS LURKING AROUND.
IT GETS DARK AT NIGHT AND THERE'S NOT MUCH TRAFFIC...
THIS ROAD IS A SHORTCUT TO OUR PLACE, BUT...
I WANTED TO SEE YOU AS SOON AS I COULD.
THEN DON'T WALK AROUND ON A STREET LIKE THIS!!
AND WHY DO YOU ALWAYS WALK EVERY-WHERE?
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
OH.
Oh yeah.
YOU DON'T HAVE YOUR CELL PHONE WITH YOU, HUH?
She probably doesn't have it...with her
Ah, that girl isn't picking up!
Mitsu, not ahead of her
UM... BECAUSE I LIKE WALKING?
Flashback.

I WANTED TO TELL YOU...
...I SHOULDN'T HAVE SAID WHAT I SAID
...I...
...I WANTED TO APOLOGIZE...

I.
I WAS SCA.
SCARED

NITWIT
WHO SAYS YOU LIKE WALKING?
FROM NOW ON, I'LL TAKE YOU HOME.
IF YOU EVER WANT TO COME TO MY PLACE, GIVE ME A CALL
NO MATTER WHAT TIME IT IS.
...I'LL ALWAYS COME GET YOU.
SO PLEASE..


DON'T PUT YOURSELF IN DANGER LIKE THAT.

Episode 11

ARISAKA-SAN...?

LA-DEE-DAH TWEEDLE-LAAAAH..
LAAH LEE TWEEDLE DEE..
ARI
ARI...
LAAA..
HEY, MITSU?
UH HUH.
UH HUH.
WHOA...
...WHAT A SHOCK!!

ドッキン
BUT...
BUT THE HUG BLEW AWAY THAT FEAR IN AN INSTANT
THAT WEIRD GUY WAS SO SCARY..
IS THIS YUKARI ARISAKA'S SUPER-POWER?
ドッキン
ドッキン
ドッキン
AT LEAST I STOOPED TREM-BLING
Could this be some frustration?
ドッキン
ドッキン
How he appears to her
I DON'T WANT ANYTHING TO HAPPEN TO YOU EITHER
YEAH.
THAT'S FINE, THAT'S FINE
ドッキン
ドッキン
HE MUST BE EXUDING SOME SORT OF CRAZY PHEROMONES FROM EVERY PORE.
ドッキン
Her palpitating for a different reason

WHERE ARE YOU NOW?
WHAT?!
HMMM??
WHAT HAPPENED TO YOU, ARISAKA-SAN?
I'M WORRIED, YOU IDIOT.
HURRY UP AND GET BACK HERE!!
ぎゅ…っ
ALL RIGHT, MEET AT THE CAR.

WORRIED ABOUT ME.
HE WAS WORRIED
WHOOPS.
?
WHY WERE YOU GOING TO MY HOUSE, ANYWAY?
I WAS GOING TO COLLECT THE THING YOU ACCIDENTALLY TOOK HOME.
OH. I SEE, THEN--
I'M SORRY.
I'm sorry, I lost sight of him.
Mitsu
NO, IT'S OUR BAD.
THE CULORIT ESCAPED.
BIIIII
BIIIII
WHAT?
NO! YOU CAME AND RESCUED ME. THAT'S PLENTY.
really?

WHAT DO YOU MEAN, "STUPID"?
STUPID!
Oof

SO IT WAS THE BEAR.
You were really fast! Wow!
I'M SORRY, BEAR. I'M SORRY I TOSSED YOU. I'M SO GLAD YOU'RE OKAY!!
I WANTED TO SHOW IT TO YOU AS SOON AS I COULD

I'M GLAD THAT YOU'RE OKAY.
ONCE AGAIN ...

AGEHA-CHAN, I'M SO SORRY THE GROPER ESCAPED.
I'M SORRY I SCARED YOU!
ぎゅっ
ぐにっ
THE CAR IS PARKED OVER THERE, SO LET'S HEAD BACK TO THE SHOP.
...WHEN I THINK ABOUT HOW MUCH HE WORRIED ABOUT ME..
...IT'S KIND OF INAPPROPRIATE, BUT...
...IT MAKES ME SO HAPPY...
...THAT I HAVE TO CRY AGAIN JUST A LITTLE BIT.
ぽはっ
BUT...
MAYBE IT'S BECAUSE OF THE GROPER...
BUT NOW KUROMINE-SAN SEEMS LIKE A GOOD PERSON.
MY HEART IS ALWAYS PURE!
自ら
ギュ

GASP!
OW, DAMMIT!
What's that?
DON'T LAUGH.
ha ha ha ha ha!
My hair's a mess
WHAT WAS THAT FOR, ARISAKA-SAN?
OH...
Hee
HUH?
AGEHA-CHAN, THIS IS FOR YOU.
I GOT IT FROM RIRIKO-SAN'S HOUSE ♪

ROSES.
WOW, I'M SO HAPPY
THANK YOU.
IT LOOKS LIKE A WEDDING BOUQUET
IT DOES, DOESN'T IT?
whoa!

IT DIDN'T TASTE VERY GOOD.
ALL THE MORE REASON NOT TO EAT IT!!
Ha
ha
ha
ha
ha!
WHO'D EAT THAT?!
Are you nuts?
OH, THAT'S THE ONE I TRIED TO EAT EARLIER.
UM. THIS ONE LOOKS KIND OF BEAT-UP.
?
WHY DON'T YOU GUYS TAKE A WALK?
THE SHOP IS CLOSE, SO I'LL PARK THE CAR
HEY, MITSU!
HUH?
I'll take this!
OKAY, OKAY. YOU'RE ALL BETTER NOW.
KUROMINE-SAN.
HE LEFT.
SEE YA!

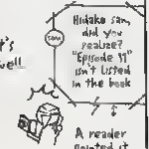
LET'S GO
OKAY.

This is the last column. Thank you for sticking with me until now! ♥

To those of you who helped me, those of you who took care of me, and the readers of this book! ♪Thank you so much!

By the way, in the table of contents of Volume 2, "Episode 11" got left out. I think after the first couple editions, the problem was fixed, so those of you who have the first edition (and maybe the second one), please have a laugh!

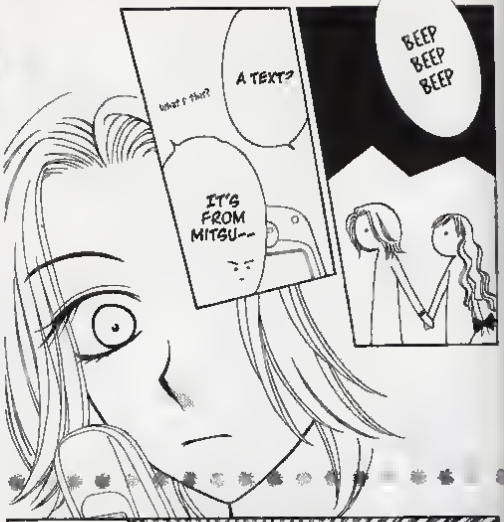
How shall I say this... no one noticed during proofreading!! (cough up blood)

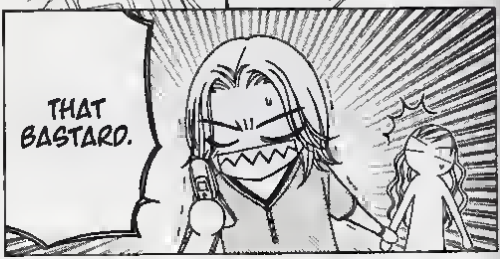

It's true!!
Hidaka-san, did you realize? "Episode 11" isn't listed in the book
I'm terribly sorry.
A reader pointed it out, and then it was obvious

Well then, I would be very happy if you sent me your thoughts on Volume 3.

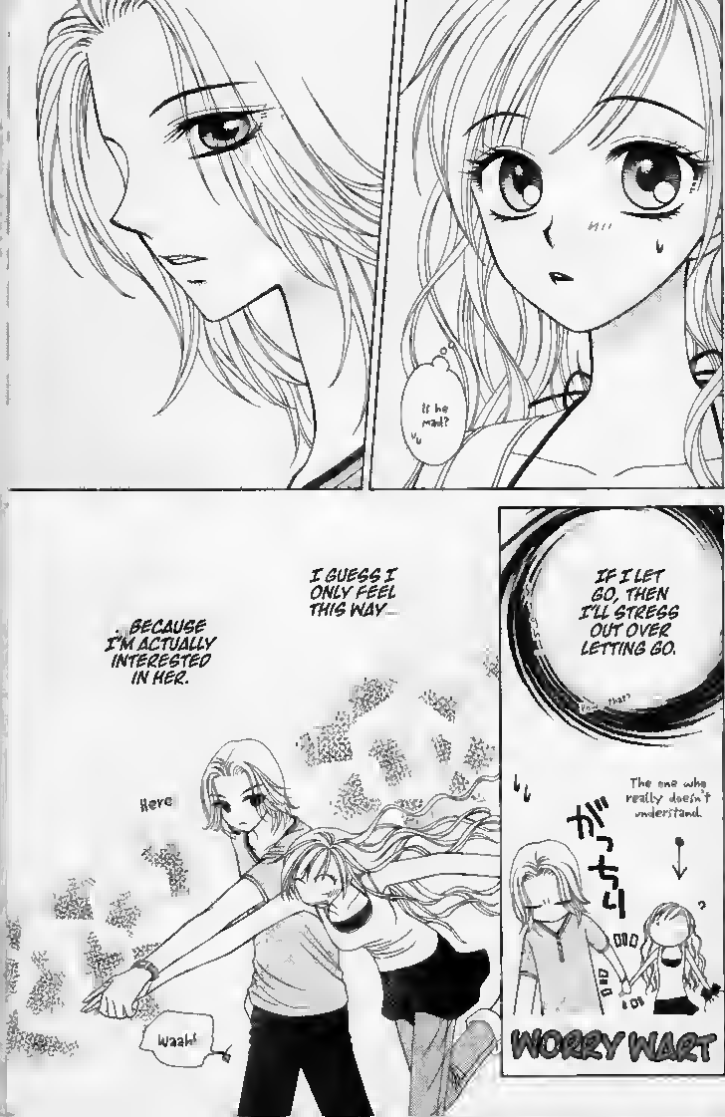
Banri Hidaka, c/o
TOKYOPOP Inc
5900 Wilshire Blvd.
Suite 2000
Los Angeles, CA 90036

I'll look forward to it!





"IT'S NOT ACTUALLY ALL THAT BAD TO BE PUSHED AROUND, IS IT?"
-MITSUYA
JERK... HE'S ENJOYING MESSING WITH ME
BUT EVEN IF THIS ALL ENDS UP BEING IRRITATING .
...WILL IT REALLY END IF I LET GO OF HER HAND?


Is he mad?
BECAUSE I'M ACTUALLY INTERESTED IN HER.
I GUESS I ONLY FEEL THIS WAY...
Here
Waah!
IF I LET GO, THEN I'LL STRESS OUT OVER LETTING GO.
The one who really doesn't understand.
がっちり
WORRY WART

WHAT A WEIRD RATIONALE.
IF IT BOTHERS YOU, THEN IT BOTHERS ME EVEN MORE.
HUH? BUT...
BUT THAT'S NOT NECES-SARY.
Oh, that's right.
YOU WERE APOLOGIZING ABOUT WHAT YOU SAID AT THE STORE...
BUT...
I APPRECIATE THE FACT THAT SHE GAVE BIRTH TO ME.
ABOUT MY MOM...I HONESTLY DON'T KNOW.
AND THAT SHE LEFT ME AT DAD'S PLACE.

IF IT WEREN'T FOR THAT, I WOULDN'T HAVE THIS JOB THAT I LOVE...
...OR KNOW MITSU OR ALL THE PEOPLE AT VBR.
ARISAKA-SAN..
OR HAVE MET SILLY PEOPLE LIKE YOU.
13"
Is that what you wanted to say?
DON'T CALL ME SILLY!
See? You are silly!

YEAH. A TYPE OF FABRIC.
IT'S SMOOTH AND GORGEOUS.
YOU KNOW WHAT VELVET IS, RIGHT?
UH HUH
It's also called velour!
If Kuramin can help it
He has to be here by now
MY FATHER NAMED THE SHOP
OH, IS THAT SO?
IT'S DEFINITELY HEAVY
A VELVET DRESS IS HEAVY
IN REALITY
Try on one of the dresses at hers sometime
Ones with a train create friction with the floor and become even heavier
OH, YOU'RE RIGHT IT'S SMOOTH
THIS IS MY FIRST TIME GETTING A BOUQUET OF RED ROSES
IT DOESN'T REALLY SUIT YOU, HUH?
A ROSE...?
BUT THE TEXTURE IS SIMILAR
TO WHAT?
EH?
TO THE THING IN YOUR LEFT HAND
You think of "red" as elegant?
Well excuse me for not being elegant!

A METAPHOR FOR "IMPOSSIBLE."
THEN THE BLUE ROSES...
I'VE HEARD OF IT BEFORE
"BLUE ROSE."
YEAH.
THE "BLUE ROSE" THAT DOESN'T BLOSSOM
THE COLOR DOESN'T OCCUR NATURALLY, RIGHT?
The blue rose can't be bred
"HEY YUKARI..."
BUT SOME DAY IT MIGHT

"IT MIGHT NOW HAPPEN TOMORROW. ."
"THERE ARE A LOT OF RESEARCHERS NOW.."
".. OR IN THE NEXT COUPLE YEARS, OR THE NEXT 10 YEARS, OR THE NEXT 100.."
". DESPERATELY TRYING TO CREATE A BLUE ROSE"
". BUT SOMEDAY, SOMEONE MIGHT MANAGE IT."
"LIKE MAKING A BLUE ROSE BLOSSOM."
"DON'T YOU THINK OUR WORK IS SIMILAR TO THAT?"
"I WANT TO MAKE THIS SHOP. ."
"FOR CUSTOMERS WHO ARE SEEKING HAPPINESS"
". A PLACE THAT CAN RESPOND TO THE CUSTOMERS' NEEDS AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE."

"FOR ME..."
"...THE BLUE ROSE REPRESENTS 'POSSIBILITY.'"
IT'S THE BLUE OF "POSSIBILITY."

...WE HAVE TO TRY AND LIVE UP TO THAT NAME...
THEN.
...BY DOING EVERYTHING WE CAN DO FOR THE CUSTOMERS
I'M SUPER-MOTIVATED NOW!!
I'LL DO MY BEST
YOU GUYS SURE TOOK YOUR TIME

Welcome back.
Kuramine-san, we're here.
カシャン!
THAT WAS CLOSE

OOOOH!
THE DRESS WAS DELIVERED.
IT'S FRESH FROM THE FACTORY THIS AFTER-NOON.
I'LL GET STARTED ON THE FINISHING TOUCHES
THE FULL SIZE DRESS IS JUST AS CUTE AS I EXPECTED!
WOW!
AGEHA-CHAN, YOUR BEARS WERE CUTE TOO.
REALLY?!
BEARS...

HMM?
WHAT'S THIS BULKY THING...

I TRIED FOR THE IMAGE OF A FIELD OF FLOWERS.
LOVELY FLOWERS FOR A LOVELY WEDDING! ♡
ACK!
JUMP FOUNDER
IF YOU DETACH THE BEARS AND THE BASKET...
Bears!
PLUS!
IT TRANS-FORMS ...
...INTO A BAG MADE OF THE SAME MATERIAL AS THE DRESS! ♪
How amazing
TA-DA!
I'M SORRY FOR GOING OFF THE MISSION PLAN.
I JUST THOUGHT WITH A CUTE OPTION LIKE THIS...
...THE CUSTOMERS WOULD PROBABLY ENJOY IT
IT'S STILL WITHIN THE BUDGET LIMIT!
BUT IF IT'S TOO OVER-THE-TOP, I'LL TAKE IT BACK.

I'm sorry I took action on my own.
WHAT DID YOU NEED THE LEFTOVER FABRIC FOR?
...I USED IT FOR THE PART WITH THE FLOWERS
NEXT TIME, YOU COULD AT LEAST CONSULT ME
YES SIR!
The Boss!
Honest.
ONCE I THOUGHT OF IT, I COULDN'T HELP BUT MAKE IT!
ギッ
IF YOU HAVE AN OPINION, YOU SHOULD VOICE IT.
ESPECIALLY FOR THINGS LIKE THIS THAT YOU'RE CONFIDENT YOU CAN PULL OFF.
Y'KNOW
YOU REALLY NEED TO BREAK YOUR "SPEAK-AND-RUN" HABIT.

IT'S NICE
THE WAY YOU SAID THE CUSTOMERS WOULD LIKE IT..
.. HOW YOU WORK HARD TO BE CONSIDERATE OF THEM ..
WHY IS IT?
YOUR WAY OF THINKING FITS PERFECTLY WITH OUR SHOP.

HOW COME SHE CRIES...
...EVERY TIME I OPEN MY MOUTH?
WHY DOES ARISAKA-SAN ALWAYS...
...SAY THE WORDS THAT MAKE ME SO RIDICULOUSLY HAPPY?
SHE'S A VERY EMOTIONAL PERSON.
Are you for real?
Sigh...
HOW WILL IT LOOK IF I TAKE YOU HOME WITH YOUR FACE ALL SWOLLEN WITH TEARS?
I UNDERSTAND, SO PLEASE STOP CRYING.
I'LL WORK HARD THIS SUMMER TOO
YEAH, I GOT IT ALREADY.
ぐしぐし

THIS IS THE START OF A VERY EXCITING SUMMER.

RECENTLY, I'VE BECOME A FAN OF BAGELS.

I like the squishy texture.

The plain type. I eat it without putting anything on it. Ha ha.

I CUT IT IN HALF AND STORE IT IN THE FREEZER. THEN I HEAT IT UP IN A MICROWAVE AND EAT IT.

One whole one is too big, so half

My assistant Ohno-san taught me the freezer storage technique. Thank you.

My favorite food is white rice

RECENTLY, MY MOM MADE A SHOCKING REMARK.

I ATE THE BEAGLE IN THE FREEZER.

MOM, A BEAGLE IS A "DOG."

Big mistake.

PUTTING ASIDE MY MOM'S STORY ...

IT'S REALLY EMBARRASSING, BUT I'M VERY PICKY ABOUT WHAT I EAT.

No vegetables

Can't drink black tea

Can't eat raw things

Can't eat picky foods

No acidic fruits

No liquid octopus, or clams

etc...

Really scared of meat intestine and on tongue

Unexpectedly, I'm living a normal life?

I always cause trouble for my mother

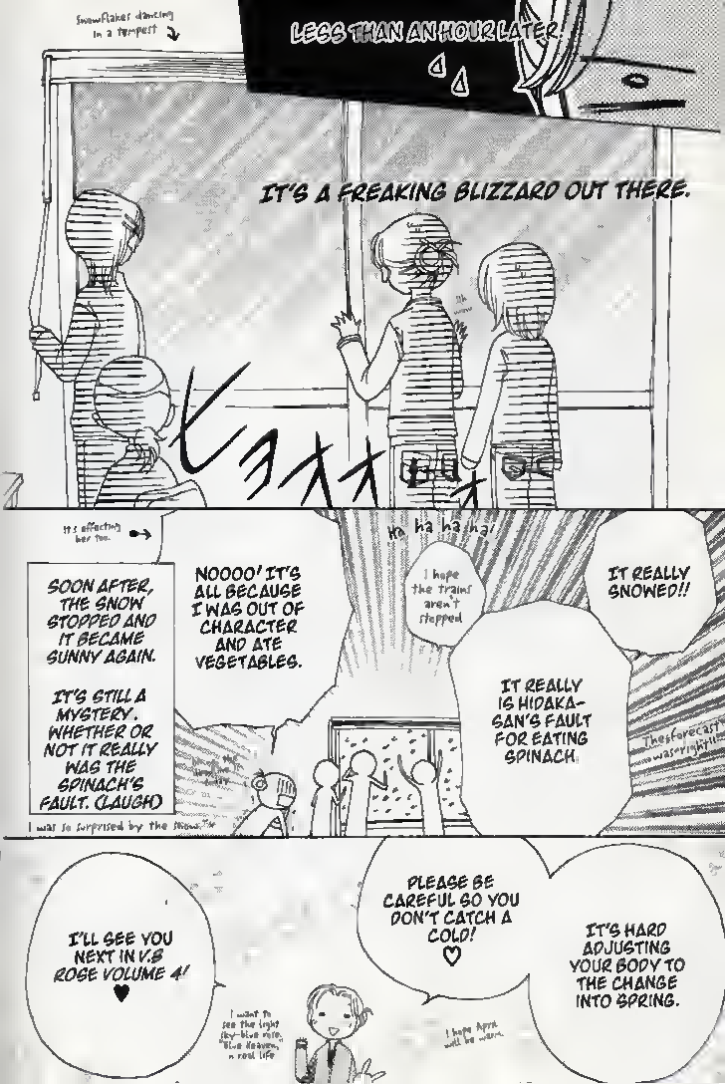
ALL I CAN SAY IS THAT THERE ARE INDIVIDUAL DIFFERENCES IN TASTE BUDS!!

PEOPLE ASK ME, WHY CAN'T YOU EAT IT?

It was boiled spinach.
BANRI-SAN IS EATING SPINACH!!
UH, YES.
END OF MARCH, IN THE EVENING BEFORE SOME DEADLINE...
...MY ASSISTANT MADE A SHOCKING REMARK.
Usually I can't eat most green vegetables.
They've better... to better!
Oh my.

DOUBLE THE SHOCK.
Say what?!
WHAT?!
Wh-at??

BUT IT'S SPINACH?!
I WAS SECRETLY WONDERING WHAT SHE WAS GOING TO EAT TODAY AND THEN I WAS SURPRISED BECAUSE SUDDENLY, IT WAS GONE.
I TRIED REALLY HARD TO EAT IT BECAUSE TODAY THE MAIN DISH HAD A REALLY STRONG TASTE, SO I THOUGHT I COULD DILUTE THE FLAVOR IF I ATE THEM TOGETHER
IT'S A VEGE-TABLE?!
What happened to her?!
Is anyone listening to me?
Cooked bamboo shoots and diced pork with lots of it in season right now, so I thought I should get some nutrients.
Ignored


Snowflakes dancing in a tempest?
LESS THAN AN HOUR LATER.
IT'S A FREAKING BLIZZARD OUT THERE.
ヒヨオオ
It's affecting her too.
SOON AFTER, THE SNOW STOPPED AND IT BECAME SUNNY AGAIN.
IT'S STILL A MYSTERY. WHETHER OR NOT IT REALLY WAS THE SPINACH'S FAULT. (LAUGH)
NOOOO! IT'S ALL BECAUSE I WAS OUT OF CHARACTER AND ATE VEGETABLES.
He ha ha ha!
I hope the trains aren't stopped
IT REALLY SNOWED!!
IT REALLY IS HIDAKA-SAN'S FAULT FOR EATING SPINACH
Therefore it's watery right!!
I was so surprised by the snow.
I'LL SEE YOU NEXT IN V.S ROSE VOLUME 4! ♥
PLEASE BE CAREFUL SO YOU DON'T CATCH A COLD! ♡
IT'S HARD ADJUSTING YOUR BODY TO THE CHANGE INTO SPRING.
I want to see the light sky-blue rose. Blue Heaven, in real life
I hope April will be warm.

TOMORROW, THERE WILL BE SNOW ON THE EAST COAST.
THEN, AT THAT MOMENT..
13-inch TV
Tomorrow's weather
But we live in Aichi prefecture!!
SNOW AT THE END OF MARCH?!
REGARDLESS OF EVERYONE'S ASTONISHMENT AND LAUGHTER...
THE NEXT DAY WAS VERY SUNNY ♡
WHAT?!
YEAH, THAT'S DEFINITELY IT.
Hahahaha!
IT'S BECAUSE HIDAKA-SAN ATE SPINACH!!
OH HIDAKA-SAN, YOU MADE IT SNOW OUT OF SEASON.
THAT'S RIDICULOUS!
No!
OH, THE SUN'S RAYS ARE DAZZLING!
WAAA!